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HIGH TIMES

# HIGH TIMES

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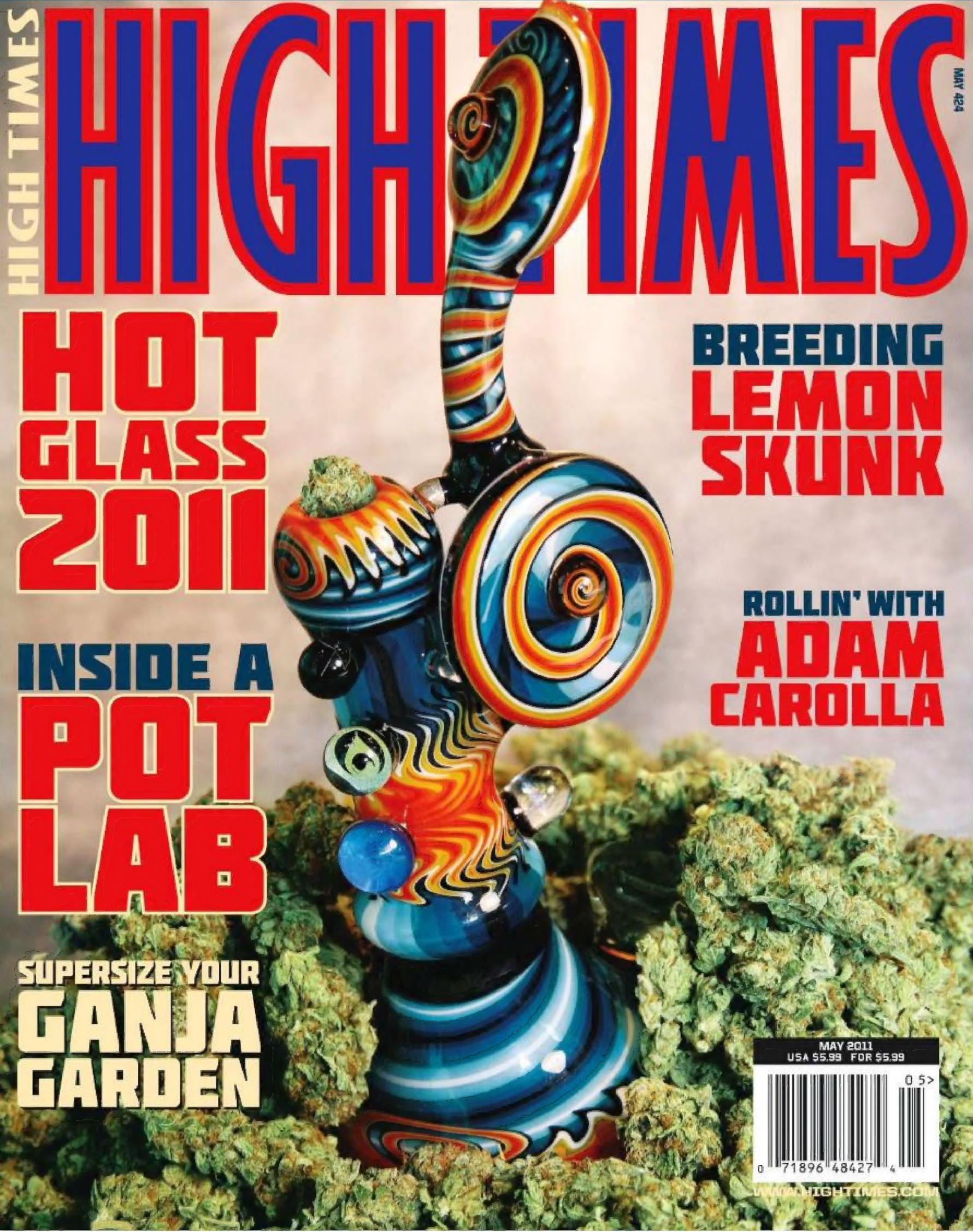
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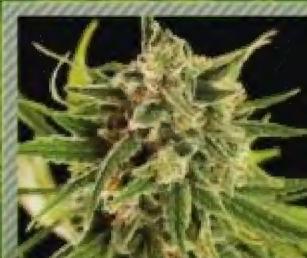
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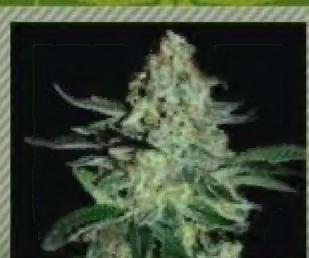
DNA GENETICS  
la confidential



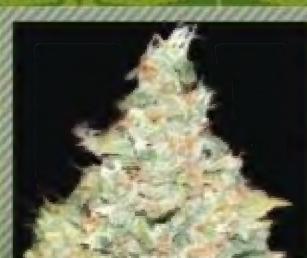
DINADEM SEEDS  
sweet deep grapefruit



DINADEM SEEDS  
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PYRAMID SEEDS  
tutankhamon



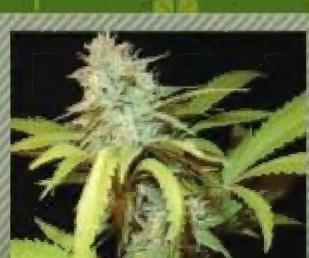
PYRAMID SEEDS  
wembley



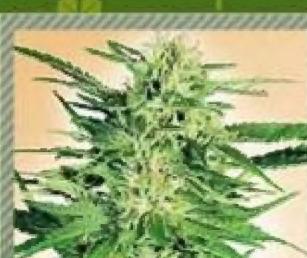
KANNABIA SEEDS  
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NEXT GENERATION  
grapegod



SEEDISM  
blitz bud



SENSI SEEDS  
big bud



ROYAL QUEEN  
shining silver haze



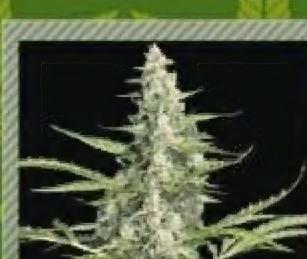
DUTCH PASSION  
twilight



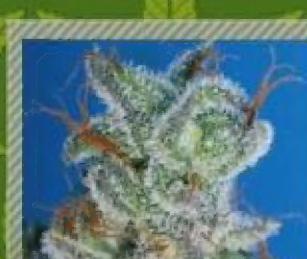
TGA SUBCOOL  
apollo 13



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big devil



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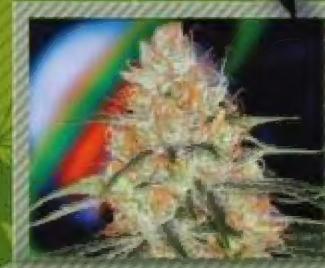
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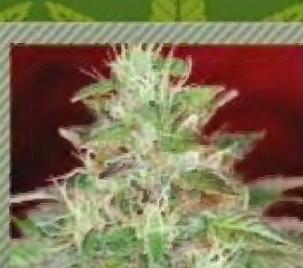
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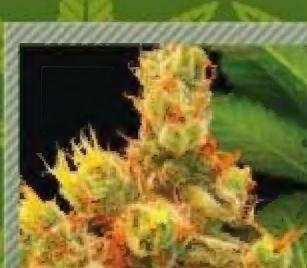
BIG BUDDHA  
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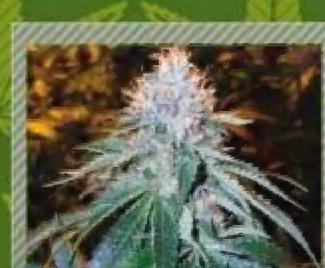
ROYAL DUTCH  
la cheese



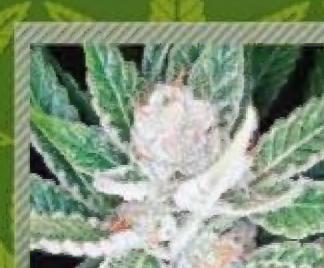
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jillybean



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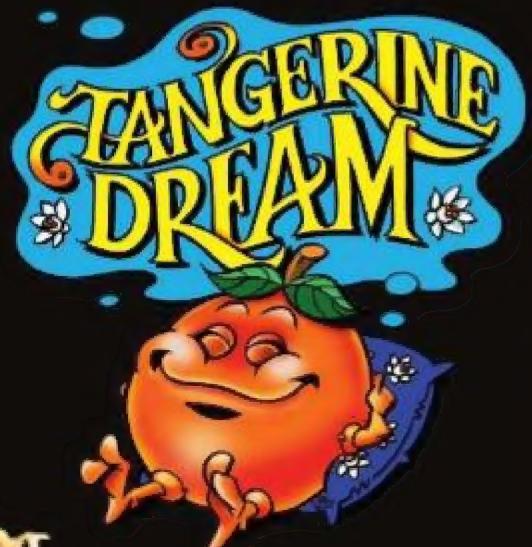
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# Tangerine Dream

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# page 6



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FREEBIE

## GLASS FOR THE MASSES

I've never taken a hit off any piece of paraphernalia that cost over a thousand dollars. In fact, I've never known anyone who has actually gone into a headshop, plunked down a few grand and walked out with one of those outlandishly intricate water pipes that appear in our pages.

But it does happen. Usually, the buyers have enough disposable income to be able to afford an ultra-exclusive gift for that special stoner in their lives. Or they may be collectors—folks who want to create their very own repository of stupendous, expensive smokeware. But it's doubtful whether these items will ever actually be used as they were intended. You may be able to smoke out of a piece of pricey glass paraphernalia, but packing the bowl of a high-end art bong seems as tragic as spilling coffee on the seat of a vintage Corvette. Will it ever be quite so sparkling clean again?

The vast majority of the stoner world prefers a smoking utensil that is sturdy and functional. We appreciate beauty, but when it comes down to it, we'd rather not buy a piece that costs more than the pot itself. But that doesn't mean you can't own a colorful, well-crafted pipe. In this issue, we examine the business of glass smokeware. How do retailers and distributors service the vast pot-smoking population? How do they survive in a semi-hostile marketplace where one's merchandise and business practices often come under legal scrutiny?

As always, we showcase an array of superlative glass smokeware, but let's get real: taking a hit doesn't require a fat wallet, a gargantuan water pipe, a plastic bag, batteries or electricity. Achieving a righteous high requires righteous pot. So we make sure to fulfill that primary objective with a feature on custom hydro design. And if that's not your bag, you can learn the tricks to becoming a successful guerrilla grower. We also take a look into the origins of the superstar strain known as Lemon Skunk.

Additionally, comedian Adam Carolla shares his sharp insights into the conundrums of living in America. But remember: comprehending sharp insights requires a clear, uncluttered mind. So change your bongwater already!

For a cool glass video scan here:



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Dan Skye  
Executive Editor

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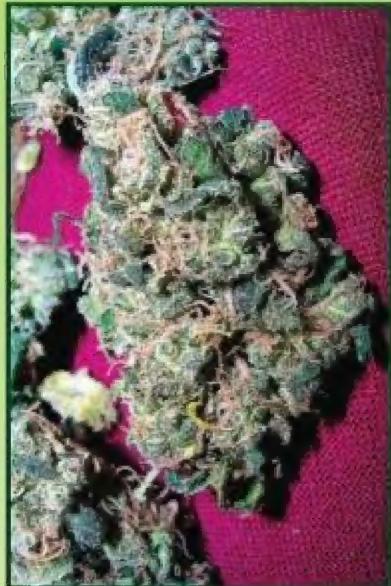
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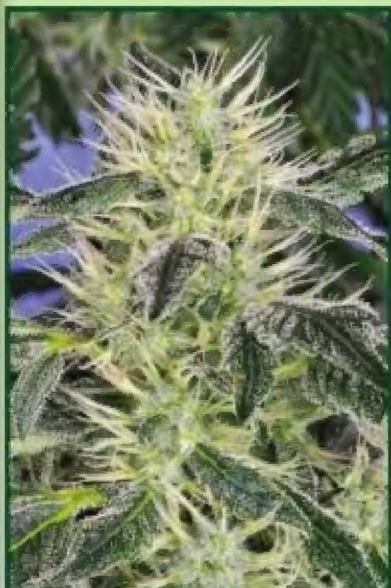
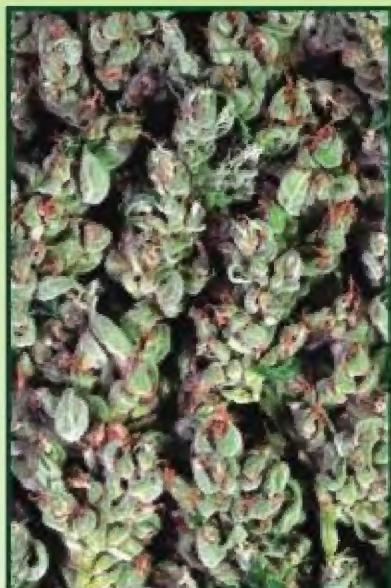
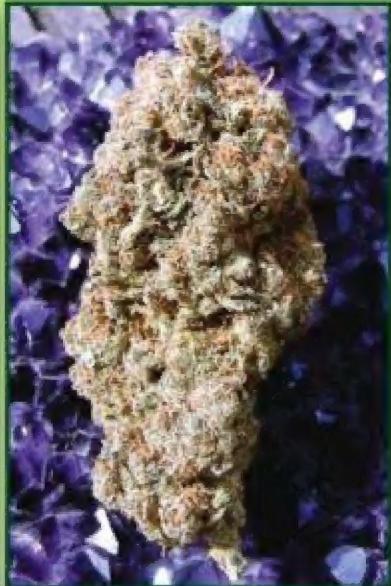
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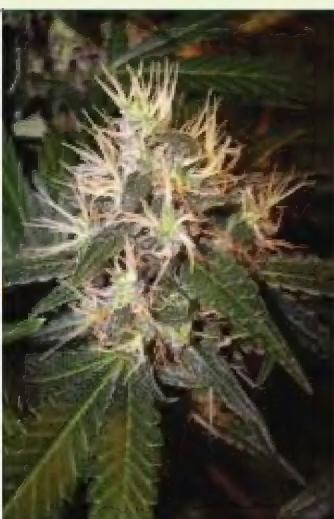
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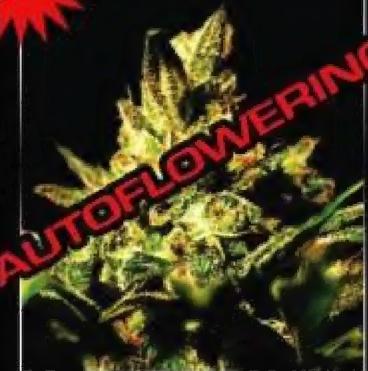
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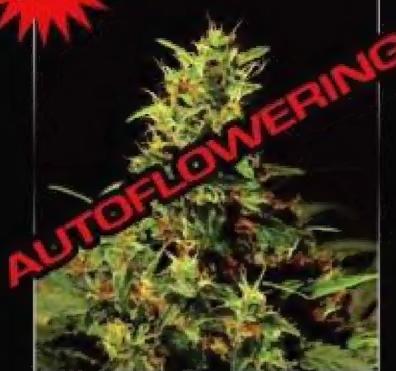
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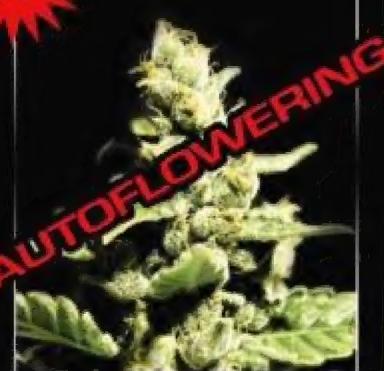
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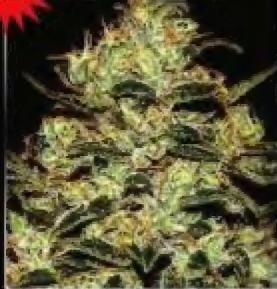
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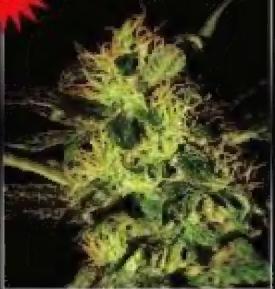
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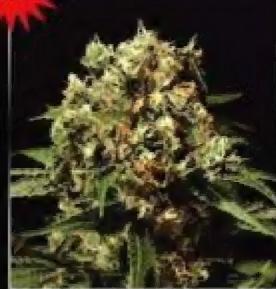
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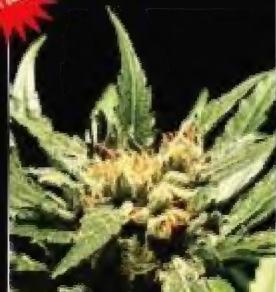
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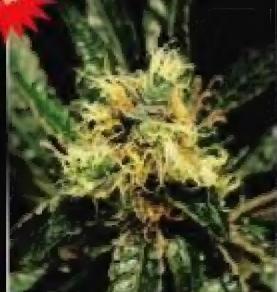
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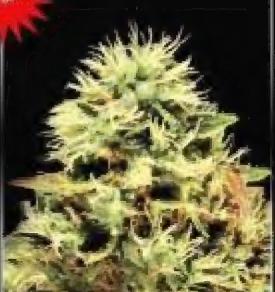
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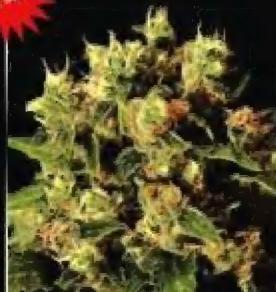
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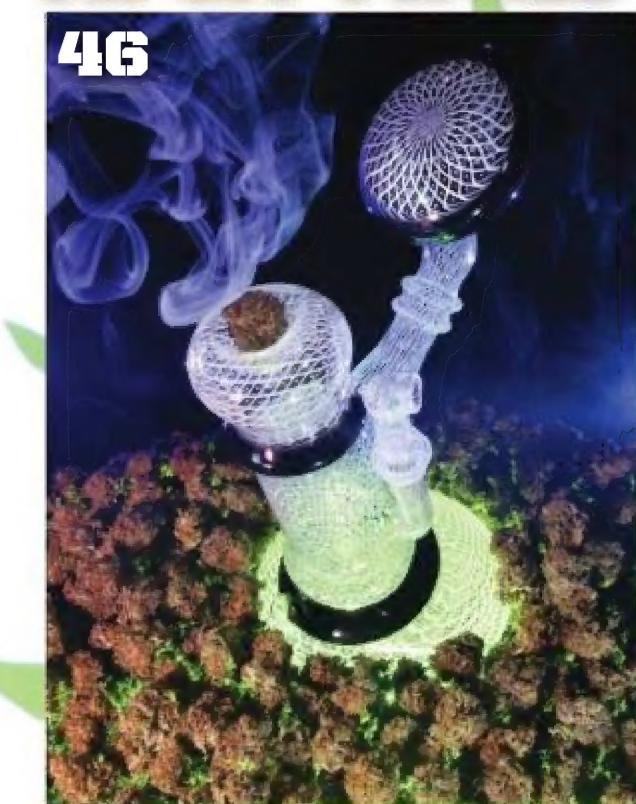
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# HIGH TIMES

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## FEATURES

### 38 PURITY & POTENCY

BY SAMANTHA NICHOLAS

The folks at Steep Hill Lab in Oakland—the premier pot-testing facility in the nation—have analyzed thousands of cannabis samples for THC, CBD and CBN, as well as mold and pesticides. Now they're unveiling their SafeCannabis seal, which will create better-informed and, ultimately, healthier medi-pot consumers.

### 46 GLASS OF 2011

BY DAN SKYE

Glass smokeware represents the best of cannabis creativity, but merchandising it is another matter. Paraphernalia may be part of the cannabis industry, but the laws governing pipe and bong sales are still very different from those for medical marijuana.

### 60 ALL GROWN UP

BY JENNY FLOWERS

Photos by Freebie

This California medical grower started out a few years back with a couple of tables in an unused bedroom of her house. Now she's growing out a custom-built hydro system in a warehouse under 16,000 watts.

### 76 OUTDOOR GUERRILLA GROWING

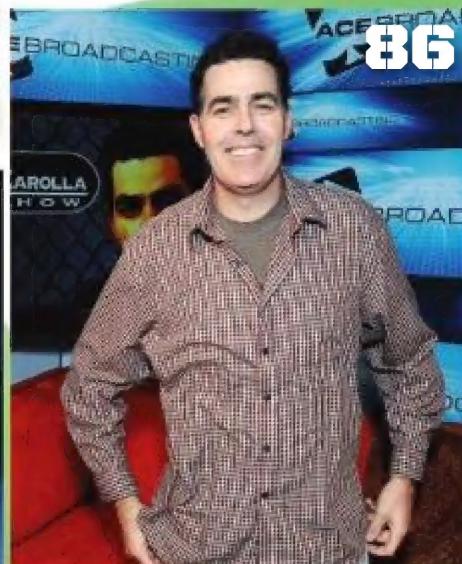
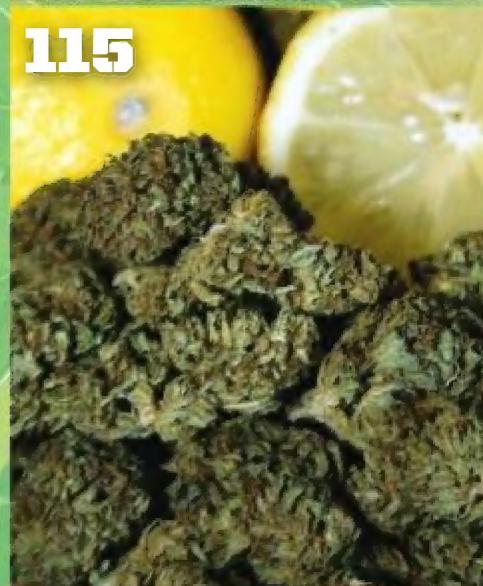
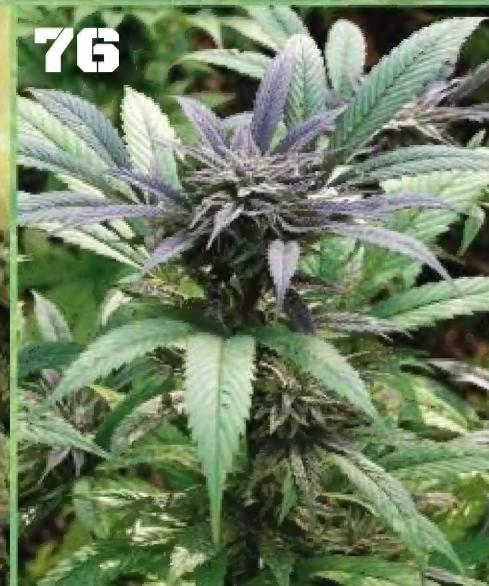
BY NICO ESCONDIDO

Spring is almost here, so it's time to get moving on this year's outdoor grow. For those of us not living on farms or hundreds of acres of beautiful Northern Cali soil, it's sometimes necessary to take our operations to a much more clandestine level. Choosing, prepping and, most importantly, *hiding* your outdoor grow can be quite a project. This guide covers all of the things that you need to consider when going guerrilla—and there's no time to waste, because ensuring a successful fall harvest means starting right now!

### 86 THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW: ADAM CAROLLA

BY CARL SHRECK

According to the title of Adam Carolla's best-selling new book, *In Fifty Years We'll All Be Chicks*. The former co-host of *The Man Show* and current podcast phenomenon discusses his abiding affection for Mary Jane and gets down and dirty about what really bugs him in America.

**38****115****76**

## DEPARTMENTS

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EDITED BY DAN SKYE

Jam Cruise bust; Feds in Vegas; Canadian skunk; Montel's pipe popped; Hacky Sack; Betting line; Bong cleaning; Showbuzz; Bong injustice; Dr. Oz spews; Pot & addiction; Top glass artist Tammy Ball; Shelby Lynne; Matt Skiba; Dave Sitek; Reviews; Brain Damage Control; Band of the Month; Miss HIGH TIMES; Almost Infamous

### 95 GROWORLD

EDITED BY DANNY DANKO & NICO ESCONDIDO  
Pix of the Crop; SSDP Report; Freedom Fighter; Ask Dr. Mitch; Munchies; NORMLizer; Cannabis Clinic; Gear/Hot Products; Super Lemon Man; Dear Danko.

### 126 NEXT MONTH

### 132 POT 40

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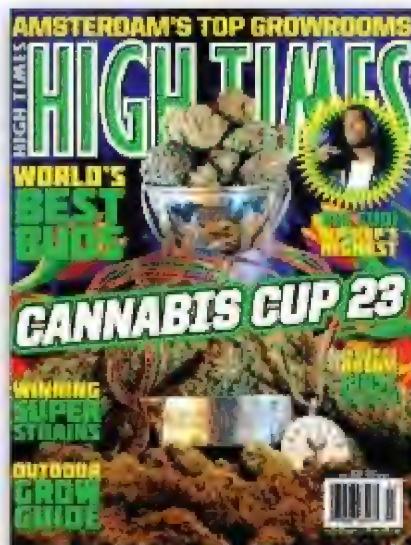
feedback

### POPULAR PIPES

I really enjoyed the article celebrating 420 in your 420th issue. It's the best article I have yet to read. I did have one question, though: Where can I get one of those Tom Forcade pipes? Even though I'm just 20 years old, Tom Forcade—like HIGH TIMES—is a huge inspiration to me.

Hendrixman

Thanks, Hendrixman—us, too! You can read all about Tammy Ball, the Tom Forcade pipe's creator, starting on page 20.



### HEMP, HEMP, HOORAY!

You can find many references to hemp and/or marijuana in the history of the martial arts. For example, in the book *T'ai Chi's Ancestors: The Making of an Internal Martial Art* by Douglas Wile, there's the phrase "as common as hemp and bamboo"—we can only assume they're talking about marijuana. There's also mention of a man who went insane practicing "Alchemy," which could mean either mercury or mushrooms. (Taoists were really into both of those things!)

In the magazine *T'ai Chi*, I've seen a few mentions of opium as well, but almost everyone is afraid to say anything about it (despite the fact that tai chi master T.T. Liang has discussed his opium use and womanizing). I wish I were the master of a family branch of tai chi—I would point out how the ancestors used marijuana and so do I, and that everyone should be allowed to use cannabis!

Mikey Neides

### ALLEN SAINTPIERRE

Your Allen St. Pierre interview (Feb. '11 HT) was great, but I think you should change the title. "Just a NORML Guy" is wrong: Allen St. Pierre is not normal. I am normal; you are normal; he is a national hero. He works 80-hour weeks and has sacrificed his personal life for us, the people who believe that prohibition is wrong. We give NORML \$53 a year; he gives it his life.

Allen, thank you so much for your sacrifice. We appreciate all your hard work!

Originally Juvenile

Allen St. Pierre is one of the most decent people in the cannabis-policy reform movement. When cannabis is finally legal, he will be one of the people to thank and hold in high esteem.

Vivian

### COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS

When it comes to toking, I break it down this way: three joints per gram, 28 grams per ounce. I smoke three joints a week (mostly by myself, but sometimes with my wife or a friend). For \$300 an ounce, I get 28 weeks (over six months) of smoke. Each joint costs me \$3.57—less than a pint of

beer at a bar, or one-third the cost of a bottle of average wine. For me, that expense is worth it. Like the man says: "Cannabis will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no cannabis."

Do I want to pay less? Absolutely. Perhaps I should move to Montreal.

O.J.

I totally support HIGH TIMES. The price index (THMQ) is such a cool idea—it gives the medical-grade market a

whole Wall Street/NASDAQ feel. But it would be nice to see even more of an international perspective taken on the prices; it would be interesting to compare what the situation is for high-grade all around the globe.

Legalize It Everywhere

### EYE CANDY

Wow—I've been an HT subscriber for 15 years now, but the March 2011 Candy Kush centerfold has got to be the most beautiful damn thing I have ever seen ... fucking awesome! Well done, guys.

The Sim

### BAND ON THE RUN

How do I enter my band in the monthly unsigned band contest?

Wade Vonasek

Bands are first selected for our website on a weekly basis, and then compete in an online poll for the title of Unsigned Band of the Month, featured in the magazine. You can submit your band (or a friend's band) by sending an email to [mailbag@hightimes.com](mailto:mailbag@hightimes.com) with the subject "Unsigned Bands." Be sure to include links to sites with audio samples and tour dates.

### WHEN YOU WISH UPON A STAR

Sometimes I wish there were more Miss HIGH TIMES photos than just the one you guys publish. Sometimes I wish there were more than just one Miss HIGH TIMES per month. Sometimes I wish I could marry a Miss HIGH TIMES. Basically all I'm saying is keep up the great work and thanks for keeping me wanting more!

PJ Kilroy

### ERRATA

In "Trailblazers" (March '11 HT), the photo of Brownie Mary was misidentified. That was actually the late marijuana activist Mae Nutt in the photo. We regret the error.

Send your letters to: Feedback c/o HIGH TIMES, 419 Park Avenue South, 16th floor, New York, NY 10016. Email: [hteditor@hightimes.com](mailto:hteditor@hightimes.com). We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity.



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## SHAME OF THE NFL

Just before the Super Bowl, an online study published in *Drug and Alcohol Dependence* reported that retired NFL players misuse opioid pain medications four times more than the general population. Half of the 644 players polled said they used painkillers during their careers and 71 percent of those said they misused drugs then. Furthermore, 63 percent of the retired players who used prescription pain pills while playing obtained them from a nonmedical source: a teammate, coach, trainer, family member, dealer, or online. Considering the violence of the sport, it's hardly surprising that players seek pain relief. But according to the NFL, cannabis—nonaddictive and devoid of side effects—warrants suspension.

## BUSTED IN VEGAS



Back in 2000, 65 percent of Nevada voters elected to decriminalize medical marijuana. The law allows for users and/or their caregivers to cultivate and possess a small set amount of marijuana for medicinal purposes. Sounds good, but patients can't buy or sell pot and can only grow seven plants for personal use. Furthermore, Nevada's health department, which regulates the

program, doesn't provide any information on growing.

So to fill the void, dispensaries have opened. Unfortunately, they're illegal, as evidenced by the federally authorized raid on five such establishments and the arrests of eleven on charges of possession and money laundering.

But the Feds aren't alone in busting the Vegas pot scene; city police have been on a rampage. Listen to the Drug War rhetoric of Metro Lt. Laz Chavez: "Marijuana grows have eclipsed that of methamphetamine labs. In 2010, we only had six methamphetamine labs as compared to 118 marijuana grows."

Gee, there's a fair comparison.

Vegas police also report a 100 per cent increase in grow ops and plants and a 43 percent increase in arrests. They also cite costs of over \$500,000 to carry out the pot investigations.



## FLABBER-GLASS-TED

The medium of glass gives flight to the artist's imagination. If you have the will, any object can become a hand pipe. The smokeware artist known as Hacky Sacky takes that maxim to heart. Her collection of glass pipes includes kittens, miniature guitars, fruit, vegetables, and even a luscious creamsicle. As for the mustache pipe that Hacky Sacky is hiding behind, it's a great way to get high and remain unrecognized.



Glass artist Hacky Sacky



## SLING-STASH

This isn't a catapult. It's a cata-pot! First used by the Greeks in 399 B.C., the catapult is capable of hurling missiles hundreds of feet. It was used in warfare for nearly 2,000 years until artillery was invented. But it hasn't become extinct yet. This modern-day catapult was discovered by Mexican soldiers near the town of Naco, which is on the Arizona-Mexico border. US National Guard troops, who were monitoring the area with video surveillance, alerted the Mexicans. The catapult was positioned just 20 yards from the fence, and was capable of airmailing 4.4-pound bales of pot into the United States.

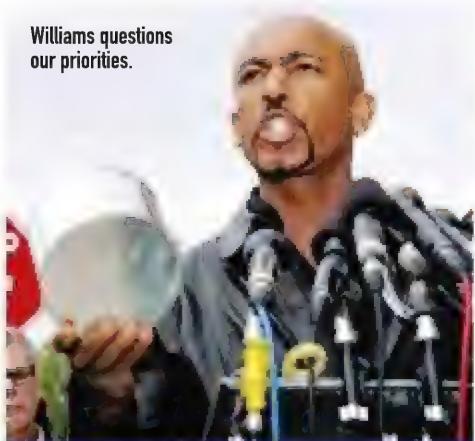
# HIGH SERS



It wasn't as stressful as being on the Titanic, but some of the passengers who signed up for the Jam Cruise did go down—but not with the ship. The Jam Cruise is a floating

concert that sails the Western Caribbean for five days. This year, the acts included the Grateful Dead's Bob Weir, Robert Randolph, Maceo Parker, Ivan Neville, and Galactic. But before the ship could lift its anchor in Port Everglades, FL, US Customs and Border Protection boarded the vessel and conducted a raid. In the end, several passengers had to walk the plank. The January operation resulted in 15 seizures of marijuana, LSD, mushrooms, hash oil, Ecstasy, an array of pharmaceuticals, and drug paraphernalia in mostly small quantities. The ship did set sail—on a straight course.

Williams questions our priorities.



## WHAT BEFELL MONTEL

When former talk show host Montel Williams passed through security at Mitchell International Airport in Milwaukee, WI with a wooden pipe in his luggage, Americans got a clear look at our nation's priorities. Once the pipe was spotted, Williams was detained for an hour in a Milwaukee County Sheriff substation at the airport. Though he wasn't finger-printed and no mug shots were taken, he did have to pay a \$484 fine, despite the fact that no pot residue was found on the pipe. He was able to depart on time.

Williams uses pot daily to combat the effects of multiple sclerosis, a disease he has been dealing with for over 12 years. He told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel: "There were four police officers involved in this entire situation. It's very interesting that a wooden pipe that tested negatively took away the actions of four security officers that were there to protect and serve the country against the potential of terrorist attacks, bombs and other things."

Visit the Montel Williams MS Foundation website: [montelms.org](http://montelms.org).



## THAT WASN'T THE QUESTION!

In late January, President Obama sat down for his second Q-and-A session with YouTube. Thousands of questions were submitted and, like last year, the most popular topic was the legalization of marijuana. In fact, at one point prior to the online interview, the top 50 questions were pot-related.

Now last year, Obama was shockingly dismissive about cannabis, chortling about the top question, and remarking that "this must say something about our interview audience." He went on to say he doesn't see marijuana as a means to reviving our economy.

This year's program was hardly different. The issue of marijuana wasn't addressed until two-thirds through the 39-minute interview. When the question was raised, Obama was questioned about the legalization of all drugs; marijuana, specifically, never came up.

Obama said it was an "entirely legitimate" issue for debate, but that he didn't support legalization, that drugs were actually a "public health issue, and that the goal was to decrease demand. He also blathered on about "shifting resources" and "being strategic."

The only strategy we saw was the President avoiding the marijuana question once again.

## BEEN THERE, DRANK THAT

In January, the international media breathlessly reported on Canna Cola, the sensational new cannabis soft drink. Every 12-ounce bottle contains 35 to 65 milligrams of THC. The drinks come in five flavors: Doc Weed, Orange Kush, Grape Ape, Sour Diesel and Canna Cola. The product's creator, Clay Butler, says he basically wanted to model Canna Cola along the lines of "how Snapple or Coca-Cola or Minute Maid would make a marijuana beverage, if they ever chose to do it."

But the concept isn't new. The Farmacy, one of Southern California's leading collectives, has been marketing cannabis soft drinks for years. We also recall that the cannabis edibles company known as Beyond Bomb, busted by Feds, also marketed pot soft drinks.

No big deal. Butler says he's never smoked pot in his life, so we'll forgive his lack of knowledge of our industry. However, what ticks us off is his description of his product. He likens low-THC Canna Cola to a "light beer" alongside high-proof liquors.

Just what we need in a modern-day, cannabis product story—an uninformed neophyte who compares his pot-infused soft drink to booze. Our advice to Clay: Please shut up! Make a good product and let those who are educated speak on behalf of cannabis.

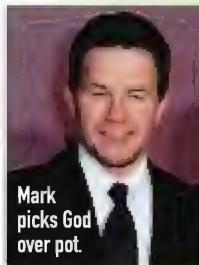




## FRESH BREATHS

The medical-cannabis industry is promoting healthy pot, but what about healthy smoking? That's up to individual stoners, because there are hundreds of ways to inhale. But if you seek purity—and who doesn't?—try the McFinn's Original Filter System, created to provide you with a cleaner, cooler, smoother hit. Bong users can choose natural agents like virgin-coconut carbon or organic cotton for trapping tars and impurities. Or you can purchase McFinn's Triple-Filtered Waterpipe. The filters can also be purchased separately, so old water pipes can be restored.

Available from *Scientific Inhalations*, [sipipes.com](http://sipipes.com).



### STRAIGHT TALK

After winning the Indie Impact Award for *The Fighter*, actor Mark Wahlberg took a glance at the trophy and noted its resemblance to a bong. But he quickly distanced himself from any current familiarity. He told *Us Weekly*: "I don't use those anymore. I stopped smoking weed for my kids."

Apparently, he and his wife were driving in the car one day when one of his four kids detected the smell of weed drifting through the window. She asked what the smell was; Wahlberg told her it was a skunk. The little girl quickly noted: "Sometimes Daddy smells like that!"

This pivotal incident put Wahlberg on the straight and narrow: "I knew I had to quit," he says. He also revealed that he gave up partying for churchgoing.

Uh, Mark? There's nothing immoral, indecent, unhealthy, or remotely bad about cannabis use—and, by the way, God knows this.

### CHUCK RAGGIN'

Chuck Norris, the action film star and star of the long-running, epically bad TV series *Walker Texas Ranger*, is pissed. Recently, a new strain of pot began showing up in Los Angeles dispensaries named "Chuck Norris Black and Blue Dream."



"This is definitely not an authorized use of his name," said a Norris spokesperson. However, legal action was not mentioned.

The strain was named for Norris because "there's a kick to it."

Ha. Ha. Ha.

### POTHEAD LOCK



In Memphis, TN, "Sycho Sid" Eudy was pulled over for not wearing a seat belt. Plus, he didn't have a license—and, oh yeah, he had 18 grams of pot in the armrest. (Good place to put it, because cops never look there.)

He was released on \$1,000 bond. Sid, who lives in Arkansas, wrestled as Sid Vicious in World Championship Wrestling, and as Sid Justice and Sycho Sid in the World Wrestling Federation.

## PLACE YOUR BETS!

**Are you tired of betting on sports? Then why not try celebrities! At the beginning of the New Year, Las Vegas oddsmaker Benjamin Lee Eckstein posted odds for the first celebrity drug bust of 2011. Can you pick a winner?**

Any NBA player, 3-2	Amy Winehouse, 9-2
Any MLB player, 2-1	Paris Hilton, 5-1
Any NFL player, 5-2	Willie Nelson, 5-1
Andy Dick, 3-1	Charlie Sheen, 7-1
Lindsay Lohan, 7-2	Gary Busey, 8-1
Snoop Dogg, 4-1	Randy Quaid/Evi Quaid, 10-1

Whitney Houston/Bobby Brown, 10-1
Kate Moss, 12-1
Courtney Love, 15-1
Britney Spears, 20-1
Eminem, 25-1
Robert Downey Jr., 30-1

## CLEAN UP YER ACT!

If a waiter served your drink in a filthy glass, wouldn't you complain? Of course you would. So why smoke fine herb out of a bong that isn't absolutely immaculate?

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Often it's not what, but how you smoke!

## BONG INJUSTICE

**Even as nationwide support for marijuana legalization gains momentum, with the Feds lessening crackdowns on individual pot offenders, police in certain states are using vague and excessive paraphernalia laws to circumvent pot decriminalization and legal medical marijuana.**

Arizona is a perfect example: Its paraphernalia laws carry the same penalties as simple pot possession, ranging from a misdemeanor to a felony (six months to two years). And while first-time offenders are generally offered probation, a second bust—even for a single pipe—can result in jail time.

Arizona's law is indeed puzzling. "Drug paraphernalia" is described in great detail, yet the term "drug" is insufficiently and subjectively defined as "any narcotic drug, dangerous drug, marijuana or peyote."

Phoenix-based marijuana defense attorney Max Hanson suggests: "The description of drugs in the Arizona paraphernalia statute was probably left intentionally vague for a reason by its authors."

More significantly, the lack of the term "illegal drugs" in the wording of the law may open the door to a court challenge, according to Hanson, but such a case has yet to make its way before the Arizona Supreme Court.

Hanson said that some of his clients busted for pot are surprised to discover that they also face paraphernalia charges when they didn't have a pipe or bong in their possession. Hanson has to inform them that in Arizona, a baggie is also considered paraphernalia—and, ridiculously, carries the same penalties as possession of a six-foot water pipe. Given Arizona's newly passed medical-marijuana law, Hanson speculates that its implementation will determine how the paraphernalia statute is enforced in the future.

Some of the nation's harshest paraphernalia laws can be found in Pennsylvania, where possession can result in a year in the slammer as well as fines—yet possession of an ounce is a mere 30 days. Meanwhile, in neighboring New Jersey, paraphernalia possession is a "disorderly persons offense" (the same as simple pot possession) with a possible six months' imprisonment. Some Jersey lawyers even advertise themselves as "marijuana paraphernalia attorneys."—Mark Miller

## OZ DOESN'T KNOW ALL

Ask Dr. Oz, the blog of the popular television doc Mehmet Oz, recently weighed in on medical cannabis: "Yes, marijuana has solid credentials for relieving some serious problems" such as nausea and neuropathic pain, the doctor wrote. But he rebuffed claims that pot helps mitigate symptoms high blood pressure, diabetes, Alzheimer's, sleep apnea, osteoporosis and drug-resistant infections.

Interestingly—and likely not coincidentally—each of the latter indications are highlighted in my book *Emerging Clinical Applications for Cannabis & Cannabinoids* (now in its fourth printing). Had the Great and Powerful Oz bothered to crack the cover, he would have learned that there's a large body of science—admittedly, much of it pre-clinical—demonstrating that naturally occurring compounds in the cannabis plant can indeed mitigate several of these diseases or their symptoms. A 2006 study found that the administration of the nonpsychotropic compound cannabidiol (a.k.a. CBD) halted the development of diabetes in mice, while a 2010 study found that it reduced symptoms of diabetic cardiomyopathy (weakening of the heart). Preliminary studies have also indicated that pot's compounds may provide a therapeutic alternative for the treatment of Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases like amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS, popularly known as Lou Gehrig's disease). Scripps investigators in California have previously reported that THC inhibits the enzyme responsible for the



### Inhaled cannabis caused no evidence of acute impairment of immune function.

aggregation of amyloid plaque—the primary marker for Alzheimer's—in a manner "considerably superior" to FDA-approved Alzheimer's treatments. THC has also been shown to extend survival rates in mice with ALS, leading experts in the field to write in 2010: "Based on the currently available scientific data, it is reasonable to think that cannabis might significantly slow the progression of ALS."

While downplaying marijuana's medicinal potential, Dr. Oz—predictably—overempha-

sized its alleged harms, asserting that the plant's consumption has been linked to cancer and weakened immunity. But not according to the latest clinical trial performed by researchers at the California Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research, who reported that inhaled cannabis caused "no evidence of acute impairment of immune function" in subjects with AIDS. And not according to UCLA pulmonologist Dr. Donald Tashkin, who found no link between long-term, heavy use of cannabis and cancers of the lung or upper aerodigestive tract. "What we found instead was no association and even a suggestion of some protective effect," Tashkin told a McClatchy reporter in 2009. "At this point, I'd be in favor of legalization."

So what's Dr. Oz's expert advice to potential medi-pot patients? Simple—take a pill. "Start with the prescription pills that contain marijuana's active ingredients, particularly synthetic THC," Oz suggests. Not the best medical advice, but at least it will keep his Big Pharma television advertisers happy.—Paul Armentano



## CONVICTION = POT 'ADDICTION'

A new 10-year study issued in January by the US Substance Abuse Mental Health Services Administration warns that drug-treatment admissions for pot are skyrocketing. In a press release, the agency stated: "One consistent pattern in every region was the increase in the admission rate for marijuana use, which rose 30 percent nationally," noting that "marijuana treatment admission rates were highest in the West North Central and Middle Atlantic states (NJ, NY and PA)."

However, SAMHSA is conspicuously silent regarding the likeliest culprit for those rising treatment admissions. According to the FBI, approximately 683,000 Americans were arrested and prosecuted for marijuana violations in 1998. That total rose steadily to over 870,000 prosecutions in 2007—an increase of almost 23 percent.

SAMHSA had previously reported that some six out of 10 persons in drug treatment for pot as the "primary substance of abuse" are referred there by the criminal-justice system. By contrast, criminal-justice referrals for other drugs comprise less than 40 percent of the overall total for drug-treatment admissions. In short, stepped-up enforcement against pot smokers is driving drug treatment—and drug treatment is a lucrative business. In 2008, the National Institute on Drug Abuse announced the establishment of the first-ever Center for Cannabis Addiction, to "develop novel approaches to the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of marijuana addiction." Or how about the National Institutes of Health, which alleges that "nearly 1 million people are seeking treatment for marijuana dependence every year"?

Bullshit. In reality, fewer than 15 percent of all adults in drug treatment for pot are self-admitted. That's approximately 43,000 people—some 957,000 fewer than the NIH claimed—according to SAMHSA's 2007 data. Furthermore, of those admitted for treatment, nearly 40 percent reported not having indulged in pot in the 30 days prior to their admission, while another 16 percent admitted to having used it three times or fewer. Addicts? Hardly. Drug War fodder? But of course.—PA

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## BALL OF FLAME

For top glass artist Tammy Ball, anything on the planet can be the inspiration for a pipe. Story & photos by Dan Skye

**She looks like she's just gotten off the ski slopes of upstate New York, where she lives. Her eyes are wide, white circles where the goggles are worn; the rest of her face appears sunburned. But if you're a full-time glassblower like Tammy Ball—one who neglects to use sunblock—people mistake your complexion all the time.**

Tammy has been behind the torch for 10 years. She's known throughout the glass industry for her ebullience and infectiously loud laugh. But it's her imagination that has made her legendary. She's also completely self-taught and has never taken a class. In short, nothing is ordinary about Tammy.

After high school, the Rochester Institute of Technology offered her a full scholarship—and though she aced all of her classes as a freshman, she admits: "I was bored. What really interested me was RIT's glassblowing studio."

She dropped out and jumped into the fire. But her career took a



slight detour when she was busted for growing. Although it was just a single plant, she was charged with cultivating 57 pounds—because the cops weighed the dirt, too. She was also charged with 97 counts of illegal paraphernalia. "They had one helluva collection at the courthouse," she laughs now.

Her artistic life may have been

disrupted, but after five years of probation, her love of the flame still burned bright. A friendly neighbor fronted her a new torch, and Tammy went back into business.

She insists that she never tries to complicate her art: "I just look at things in the world and think, 'Wow, that would make a great pipe!'"

And she means it. Care to take out of Jerry Garcia's head? How about puffing on an Academy Award? If you've got pictures of your kids or loved ones (or pets), they can become pipes, too. Tammy also creates the glass equivalent of murals, gaining fame for her many intricate tableaux based on tales like *The Wizard of Oz* and *Alice in Wonderland*.

"If you can imagine it, you can smoke it," Tammy says.

The year 2010 was the most gratifying of her career: She took first place, along with partner Mike Evans, at the Glassroots Art Show in Madison, WI, where teams of

artists work together for over eight hours to create pieces. She was also victorious at the Female Flameoff in Humboldt County, CA, where she won in the Mystery Box category, in which artists work with limited supplies on a theme that's revealed just before the competition begins. And at the Las Vegas Flameoff, she took third place with her homage to Cheech & Chong.

Understandably, business is brisk; requests pour in, and clearing those orders requires diligence. But let's not get carried away: Tammy says she works "banker hours" and always takes weekends and holidays off. Even so, her toil behind the torch is paying off.

"Things are good—I bought a house and have a nice car. But cigarettes are ten bucks a pack in New York, and herb isn't cheap. What can I say?" she laughs. "It's expensive to be Tammy Ball!" \*

For inquiries, email Tammy at [tammyblowsglass@yahoo.com](mailto:tammyblowsglass@yahoo.com).

A giraffe dominates this jungle setting complete with birds and monkeys.



Jerry Garcia still swings in Tammy's world.



A bud in the bowl is worth a bird in the hand—or something like that.



These curvaceous torsos are actually one-hitters.



Actually blowing glass! Top of the world, ma!

## PRESSING THE TORCH

A newcomer takes her first lesson in glassblowing. I've always wanted to blow glass, but I've also heard all the warnings and rumors about how dangerous—even lethal—it can be. But fear must be overcome, and hope always prevails, etc. Plus I had champion glassblower Tammy Ball as my teacher. (Not to mention good health insurance.) So I lowered my pulse with a few deep breaths, donned a pair of tinted safety goggles and pronounced myself ready to burn.

We chose a couple of strong, clear tubes and set about making my first "spoon," otherwise known as a simple hand pipe. Tammy stepped up to the flame first and showed me how the rod (tube) needs to be introduced to the blue of the flame (the hot part) slowly so that it doesn't explode in your face. When bringing tube to flame, the rod also needs to be spun by hand to ensure that it doesn't lose its shape. As Tammy stresses: "Forever turning!" Otherwise, you'll end up with a goopy mess of glass that you can't do anything with.

Once the glass was warmed up, I created the mouthpiece by thinning the middle of the tube down to a "stringer" and then cutting that piece off. Stringers are the skinny pieces of glass that get melted to such a spindly thinness that you're able to just cut the end with scissors, breaking the piece off with a slight tap. *Voila!* A hole for inhaling!



My first pipe!

After the mouthpiece was complete, the other end of the tube was introduced to the flame. That's when the fun began: the actual glassblowing.

It's similar to blowing up a balloon, but not as scary. Tammy put the tube to her lips and—forever turning—blew into the tube until the red-hot bulb was large and round, creating the actual head of the pipe. Once that was finished, the tube was put back into the flame. The bowl and carb were then made with another piece of smaller tubing poked into its proper place, cutting off any stringers that were created during the poking.

Tammy's spoon took all of five minutes to make. Mine? Not quite so fast. I forgot to spin the rod a few times, so my tube began to get a bit droopy in some places. Then I screwed the carb up (it looks broken, but it isn't). I also burned my gloveless hands when I forgot the pipe was still hot.

Still, I blew my first piece of glass without a trip to the ER. Thanks, Tammy! Now I've got a new hash pipe made by me!—Vaporella

Watch Vaporella's lesson.



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## MARKET ANALYSIS

AK-47 made the top five submitted strains for the first time since May 2009. When it last appeared two years ago, its average price per ounce was a whopping \$459—\$79 more than its average this month. In fact, nearly all of this month's top five were down in price; taken together, they averaged only \$341. The top five submitted strains (with average price) were Kush (\$330), Diesel (\$341), Blueberry (\$310), Haze (\$362) and AK-47 (\$380).

**Index Watch:** All indices essentially held steady, finishing very close to both their previous month and year-to-date averages. The Kind and Schwag indices showed the greatest variation, as each finished \$7 off of their YTD average.

**HIGH TIMES** wants to know what you're smoking. Submit your strain information, including location and price by the ounce, to [thmq@hightimes.com](mailto:thmq@hightimes.com).

Trans-High Market Quotations (THMQ) reports pot prices by the ounce, strain and location. To submit prices, go to the THMQ link at [hightimes.com](http://hightimes.com).

CURRENT US PRICE INDEX: \$350 (last month: \$352; YTD: \$354)

CURRENT KIND INDEX (\$350+ PER OZ): \$428 (\$423, \$421)

CURRENT MIDS INDEX (\$150-\$349 PER OZ): \$265 (\$264, \$271)

CURRENT SCHWAG INDEX (\$1-\$149 PER OZ): \$103 (\$97, \$110)

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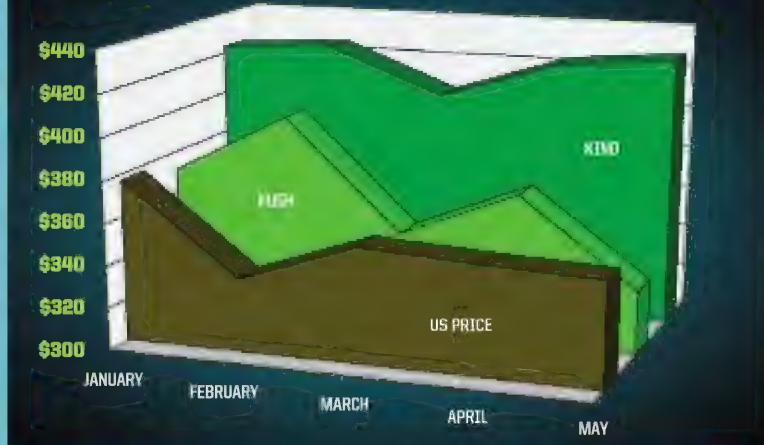
"Grown indoors in the Ozark Mountains. The prices are twice what a local person who knows one of the growers would pay—but due to the large college population and the heavy demand for high-grade cannabis, \$400 an ounce is the going rate."

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ARIZONA	Phoenix	Strawberry Cough	\$400
ARKANSAS	Jonesboro	AK-47 Super Lemon Haze	\$400 \$400
	Paron	LSD	\$450
CALIFORNIA	San Diego	Headband	\$200
	San Jose	Super Lemon Haze Blue Dream	\$250 \$225
COLORADO	Pueblo	Cherry Widow	\$325
FLORIDA	Dunedin Loxahatchee	AK-47 Blue Widow	\$400 \$350
HAWAII	Kihei	Trainwreck Headband Chocolope	\$400 \$400 \$400
	Boise	Green Crack Blue Widow	\$300 \$275
INDIANA	Fort Wayne	Sour Diesel Strawberry Cough	\$300 \$300
MAINE	Portland	White Berry	\$400
MICHIGAN	Detroit	Blueberry Blue Cheese OG Kush	\$450 \$500 \$475
MINNESOTA	Burnsville	White Widow	\$400
MONTANA	Bozeman	Purple Urkel NYC Diesel x Blueberry	\$250 \$250
	Kalispell	G-13 Lamb's Bread Bubba Kush	\$280 \$224 \$280
MISSOURI	St. Louis	White Shark	\$440
NEVADA	Las Vegas	Chemdog Death Star	\$400 \$400
NEW YORK	Plattsburgh Queens	Big Buddha Cheese Gravity	\$425 \$600
NORTH CAROLINA	Raleigh	Bubblegum	\$500
OHIO	Cleveland	Lowryder	\$450
OREGON	Portland	Bubba Kush OG Kush	\$240 \$240
TENNESSEE	Memphis Nashville	AK-47 Purple Haze Diesel	\$400 \$460 \$450
TEXAS	Austin	Sour Diesel Hindu Kush	\$325 \$375
VIRGINIA	Glen Allen Rockingham County	Trainwreck Blue Dream NYC Diesel Blackberry Kush	\$500 \$380 \$380 \$380

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# BURZ

## CANNABIS COUNTRY

Musical warrior Shelby Lynne fights for freedom.

By John Fortunato

Talented singer-songwriter Shelby Lynne Moorer is a kindred spirit. We both love John Lennon, Steely Dan, vinyl records, college football and good herb, but absolutely hate auto-tuned singers, *American Idol* and stale country radio. A true American underdog who's faced colossal challenges in her life, Shelby and her equally gifted sister, the respected folk singer Allison Moorer, confronted the most traumatic event possible when their depression-bound father took his life after shooting their mom to death outside the family's home. Living at separate relatives' homes in Alabama thereafter, the two overcame adolescent adversity, then record-label politics, to become successful independent artists.

Only through constant perseverance did Shelby gain her musical foothold. In her teens, she cut two formative Nashville albums, but found her budding career plagued by ultraconservative music-industry executives who had vileyly swept away a decade of Willie Nelson/Waylon Jennings outlaw types.

Her western-swing-derived album *Temptation* (1993) was Shelby's springboard for solo success. But it was seven years before */ Am Shelby Lynne* found an international audience—one that was thoroughly captivated by her naked emotionality and raw, heartfelt sentiments. Living in the peaceful confines of Palm Springs, CA, ever since, Shelby has unloaded a steady stream of albums featuring some of the finest instrumentalists available. Much like the heralded '60s singer Dusty Springfield—whom Shelby paid tribute to on her 2008 acoustical retreat, *Just a Little Lovin'*—she shares an abiding interest not only in country-and-western but also rhythm-and-blues.

When I met up with her recently at a hotel in midtown Manhattan, Shelby came stylishly dressed in a Brooks Brothers sweater vest and



"You have to have a rebel spirit," says Shelby.

cab-driver hat. She's courteous, demure, but also full of spunk. As a kid, all she wanted to do was sing, perform live and make music. That wish came true, but at a cost. In order to break out of Music City's string-laden, cookie-cutter adult-contemporary slumber, this courageous feline had to assert her independence in a ballsy manner.

"I started fighting against Nashville after realizing I wasn't going to have any radio hits," Shelby explains. "I figured I might as well make some good records anyhow. My passion was western swing, jazz and country. You have to have a rebel spirit or you're just corporate product, which I'm totally against. If someone said, 'Endorse beer or whiskey,' I'd be into it, because I partake in those things. But at the same time, you can't sell your soul—sometimes you've got to stay poor to make the music right."

Oddly, the conservative producers and record-label geeks who wanted to mold Shelby into a pampered country starlet were too oblivious to take advantage of her killer body as a marketing tool. Instead, she did it herself, for kicks, on her most accessible record, 2001's *Love, Shelby*. Produced by pop kingpin Glen Ballard (who'd previously helped Alanis Morissette achieve universal mainstream exposure with her best-selling album *Jagged Little Pill*), its resourceful combination of lovelorn ballads, rock-driven rants, seductive come-ons and blues-based testimonials proved how diversified a talent she really was.

But it's not clear whether the album's multifarious tunes revealed more of Shelby than the ultra-sexy front and back covers and inner-sleeve snapshots did. Featuring the singer in cut-off blue jeans, fingers placed ever so libidinously around her crotch, and showing off a mirrored image of her butt cheeks, *Love, Shelby*'s salacious pictorial spread is undoubtedly one of the most arousing album designs ever.

When asked about it, Shelby laughs and says, "It seems if people want me to do something, they ought to *not* bring it up." Then she clarifies: "So sexy is all in the heart. There's a lot of ways to pull that off—it doesn't have to be in the drawers. I've gone through my phase of tits and ass, but now is not one of those times."

Throughout her career, Shelby's

melancholic tearjerkers and sentimental love letters have been neatly juxtaposed with booze-riddled missives and jubilant gospel-rock forays. On 2010's *Tears, Lies and Alibis* (released on her own boutique label, Everso Records), the cooing songbird brought a subtle atmospheric restraint to an album of plaintive torch songs. The yearning romantic fervor was tempered with gloomy heartache, the poignancy reflecting a sensitive, more matured perspective. But when the sadness gets too intense, Shelby reaches for the bottle on the lonesome, steel-guitar-based weeper "Old No. 7."

"I wrote 'Old No. 7' in a drunken blur,"

Though Shelby doesn't perform high, before *I Am Shelby Lynne* came out, she spent many mornings smoking herb with some Grand Marnier and a pot of coffee by her side, writing tunes under the influence. (Allegedly, these songs are lost in a box somewhere.) And as a vehement pro-pot advocate, the transplanted Californian was miffed when Proposition 19 didn't pass.

"Bible thumpers and misinformed conservatives need to go away," Shelby states. "They say weed's a gateway drug. What kids can't get their hands on weed? Kids can find it when adults can't. Like Willie Nelson told me, 'You just can't do

anything too much.' I went through a wake-and-bake phase, but I find it's more of a reward smoking a joint with someone afterwards."

Although she takes her pro-marijuana stance seriously, the only time she's ever mentioned getting high in a song was on *I Am ...*'s autobiographical "Where I'm From." On this mellow jaunt, euphoric memories of her Alabama teen years culminate with the line "I'm up the old Tombigbee River / High as the pines all the time."

As our conversation drifts onward, Shelby shows me some awe-inspiring photos of the 20-foot marijuana plant she

and an associate grew from a few mediocre Mexican seeds. "It ain't pretty," she says, "but I got half a pound. My friend found me some gnarly, ugly Mexican weed. We had the best time drinking tequila and smoking weed in Cabo San Lucas. I like 'shaky' weed with seeds. That shit makes me giggle—it smokes well and smells like Christmas trees. I didn't manicure the bush, just let it grow." But, she cautions, "medical marijuana makes me too nervous. It's too strong and fancy."

Coming full circle, Shelby and her younger sis, Allison Moorer, got the chance to perform together live for only the second time in late November of 2010. Putting on a warm duet concert at Tarrytown Music Hall, the Moorers shared original compositions, Everly Brothers chestnuts, Christmas carols and a sisterly a cappella *Color Purple* number to three standing ovations. It was a true musical affirmation, and Shelby Lynne—the older sibling who has fought for everything she's gotten in life—even shed a few tears. \*



Shelby rocks the Triple Door in Seattle

## 'Bible thumpers and misinformed conservatives need to go away,' Shelby states. 'They say weed's a gateway drug. What kids can't get their hands on weed? Kids can find it when adults can't.'

Shelby confides. "I can only write what I know, but I never know where I'm headed. What each player brings to the party is so different," she adds, regarding her musical collaborators. "If you make plans, you're an idiot."

Working on *Tears* with Muscle Shoals legends David Hood and Spooner Oldham certainly increased her ambition—though maybe not in the same way that working with some stony Willie Nelson associates did on *Temptation*.

As Shelby recalls: "I was a shy brunette kid with long country hair back then. We'd head out on the road after a show, and my band would be cackling—and I'd be in the back, curious about what's up. Finally, one night, I got up the nerve to see them smoke pot. Then I did what every dumb kid does when they start getting high: I said, 'I can't feel anything. Am I high?' Next thing, we pull into a truck stop to get food, and I'm eating one of those grilled-cheese sandwiches you get out of the package. Then it hit me! I loved getting stoned."

I've perpetually smoked marijuana for over 20 years," Sitek says, giggling. "I just haven't really experimented with not smoking."

## GRASS ROUTE

**TV on the Radio** guitarist and producer-in-demand Dave Sitek is burning up. By Nisha Gopalan

"I never wondered how smoking it would be," says Baltimore-reared Dave Sitek, the omnipresent producer-guitarist, remembering the moments before he tried marijuana for the first time. He was about 14, and his parents were out of town. So he and his friend procured a steamroller, hit it about four times and zoned out to Buffalo Springfield. "Then," he says dramatically, "I saw the future." He unleashes a maniacal laugh.

"That's when I got inside a song for the first time," he continues in all seriousness. "I think I was just more focused. For me, it was a concentration issue—I was ADD, a spaz." Sitek would subsequently get baked and listen to songs five or six times over, trying to suss out how they were constructed, how they rolled out. Yes, marijuana is a big reason why 38-year-old David Andrew Sitek is a musician today.

His day job is playing guitar for the art-rock band TV on the Radio, but that's beginning to seem like a hobby when you consider Sitek's ever-expanding producing résumé. Over roughly a decade, the unflappable and good-humored studio rat has worked on albums for everyone from the Yeah Yeah Yeahs to Wale to Scarlett Johansson. He managed to parlay that Rolodex of bold-face names into his current release, a solo album called *Maximum Balloon*. A never-boring funk/electro/dance/indie-rock album that pays obeisance to '80s synth pop, it features Sitek's compositions sung by friends including Talking Heads' David Byrne, the Yeah Yeah Yeahs' Karen O

and rapper-on-the-rise Theophilus London.

Ever since releasing the critically lauded *Maximum Balloon*, Sitek, who now lives in LA, has been throwing himself into his next (and perhaps most unlikely) project: imbuing eccentricities into Jane's Addiction's first studio album since 2003's *Strays*. Given Duff McKagan's departure from the band, Sitek will play bass on the release but has no designs for touring with them—"although," he says, "it would be fun to play, like, 'Summertime Rolls' on the Lollapalooza stage."

The pairing is a bit odd: a guy who specializes in post-millennial indie rock helming the seminal pre-millennial hard-rock band's comeback album. But, he figures, "pretty much anybody who's working with me wants to mix things up—I'm the joker card in the deck." He's also a little biased: Jane's Addiction drummer Steve Perkins, he says fondly, "is the biggest stoner I've ever worked with."

Sitek begins his day by "filling up a balloon and losing myself in peace" before commencing a grueling 18 hours of work. "I've perpetually smoked marijuana for over 20 years," he says, giggling. "I just haven't really experimented with not smoking." If slothfulness is the typical pothead stereotype, Sitek is an overachieving anomaly. Modest about his accomplishments, he reasons that "there's an entire world of people smoking grass and not being fools."

For example, mention California's Proposition 19 and he becomes especially articulate. "There's no part of me that believes alcohol is acceptable and weed is not," Sitek says (he drinks only wine

himself). "I've never seen anyone smoke a joint and get into a fistfight. However, I have been in plenty of bars—you know what I mean?"

He voted pro-19 but does have concerns about legalization. "I don't think anyone has really focused on what that would mean," he says. "The second it becomes legal, it'll become dominated by corporations. Corporations already have plans for that. The United States worships money; it's just a question of when it gets too expensive to fight the War [on Drugs]—that's when they'll change."

Nowadays, Sitek's main concern is making good on the assortment of projects he has up in the air. There's that still-unnamed Trent Reznor collaboration ("We should make a futuristic children's record, 'cause he has a baby now. It would be funny as hell"), plus a "million things" that are still "top-secret." And then there's that *Raaaaaaaaandy* mixtape in the works with comedian Aziz Ansari, based on the latter's ego-luvin' character in Judd Apatow's *Funny People*. One glitch, though—while the duo has finished a good chunk of material, it still awaits rhymes from a handful of rappers like Kid Cudi.

Sitek and Ansari have by no means given up on it, but after a year, they had to move onto other projects. "There's one thing that moves slower than the music business, and that's the hip-hop music business," Sitek says. Maybe you should have offered to bribe them with weed? "We tried that approach," Sitek answers. "I mean, everybody knows that I have weed!" \*

Taking a break from the studio. Dave Sitek lights one up.

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Raised in Chicago,  
Matt Skiba moved to  
Los Angeles to be  
closer to the sun  
and the smoke.



## BLAZING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

**Alkaline Trio's Matt Skiba keeps the home fires smoking. By Chris Parker**

As the frontman for Alkaline Trio, Matt Skiba spends plenty of time on the dark side. The band's pulsing pop-punk is rife with gothic undertones—from the album art and titles like *Good Mourning*, *Crimson and Remains*, to tracks like "Fatally Yours," "Dethbed" and "In Vein." The morbid iconography, with its complement of coffins, blood and encroaching darkness, counterbalances the music's bright, hook-laden presence—but it's really little more than a metaphoric construct, much like how Martin Scorsese uses the mob to draw a larger cultural allegory.

While the shadowy, moribund tone amps up the idea of emotional ache, it's not delivered with self-serious, soul-scarred brooding, but rather with a witty, literary self-awareness expressed by

songs like "Donner Party (All Night.)"

"You can't have darkness without light," Skiba explains. "All the duality of life is our biggest inspiration—it's kinda very basic, but it's everywhere and it's what comprises us."

In person, the tall, lanky, oft-bespectacled Skiba smiles warmly and laughs freely. He's no misanthrope. Though he grew up in Chicago and formed the band there during the mid-'90s while working as a bike messenger, he moved to Los Angeles almost a decade ago and hasn't looked back since. He wouldn't trade SoCal's perpetual 70°F weather and sunny days for the Midwest's winters, nor give up his nearly year-round enjoyment of surfing and motorcycling—not to mention the easy availability of the chronic. There's a

dispensary just a block from his house, but Skiba prefers to frequent a place further away owned by a friend, "to support his small business."

Though we initially hung out in Alkaline Trio's tour bus (practically hot-boxing the back lounge), Skiba's talking to me now from London, England. After spending a *sativa*-soaked evening in Amsterdam, the band has crossed the channel and is waiting on a hook-up. Ironically, it's 4:20 there, and Skiba's jonesing just a bit. Of course, it's nothing compared to "97," an early autobiographical track, in which he sings: "I had it all / When I was with you I forgot about everything / 18 months, 18 months seems like fucking eternity."

"That was about being on probation and not being able to smoke marijuana, but everyone thinks it's about a girl," Skiba laughs ruefully. "I got caught with some drugs in my car when I was a kid. Now, I like to smoke weed, but if I don't have it, I'm not freaking out. But when I was

younger, I really, really loved smoking weed—it's all I did. So when I couldn't, it was pretty much a total bummer."

Did he have a big party to celebrate the end of probation? "I'm still recovering," Skiba cracks. Ironically, though, it took him a long time to appreciate pot's charms. He reckons he didn't get high the first dozen times he smoked as a suburban Chicago teen; in fact, he started taking acid before he ever actually got high from pot. "So the first time I got high from weed, I thought somebody dosed me with acid!"

But Skiba's moderated his smoking somewhat lately, because he's had a lot on his plate. After a one-album tenure with Epic (2008's *Agony & Irony*), Alkaline Trio went back to the indies, releasing their seventh album, *This Addiction*, for Epitaph. A return to their less-polished, hard-charging punk roots, it's their best-selling record to date, hitting No. 11 on the *Billboard* 200 and topping the rock, modern rock and alternative charts. In August, Skiba released an album of home-recorded demos (simply titled *Demos*), and in his spare time he's been working with producer (and ex-Nine Inch Nails member) Danny Lohner on his proper solo debut, which he hopes to release in early 2011. He compares it to an earlier side project, *Heavens*, with Josiah Steinbeck, which released *Patent Pending* in '06 before breaking up. "It's not dissimilar from that vibe," he says. "It has a kind of dancey feel to it, but still with elements of post-punk and darkwave."

In the meantime, Skiba's looking forward to getting back to LA, where you'll find him canoodling with his girlfriend, surfing, smoking weed and relaxing (as if the rest wasn't relaxing enough) to a little transcendental meditation.

"It opens doors up inside of you that you didn't know you had. It eliminates all the fear and anxiety that a person might have," he says. "It's really amazing—I started meditating three years ago, and I haven't gotten sick once. It's the best thing that ever happened to me, bar none." \*



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# CONFESSTIONS OF AN UNREDEEMED WHO ADDICT

## The Who

*Live at Leeds Super Deluxe Edition*  
(Polydor)



It's a curse to be a Who addict. I started on the stuff when I was 10 years old and I still can't shake the monkey. And the Who will humiliate you; they will make you hide your head in shame. You watch that Super Bowl video where they're playing the *CSI*-edit version of "Won't Get Fooled Again." And you think: what is wrong with me? But then one listen to *Live at Leeds* is all you

need to reaffirm your allegiance. Losing yourself in the sheer fury of the performance, you look out at the world of haters and say, "Fuck you people. This is the album I want played at my funeral."

From literally the first note of the first song, "Heaven and Hell," Keith Moon launches a Herculean barrage of stickwork that lasts nearly two hours. With the Who, it's all about the drummer, the same way it's all about the guitar when you listen to Hendrix. Moon and Entwistle weave a tight, serpentine bottom end that Townshend's guitar floats over, sometimes playing melodic leads and other times locking in with the rhythm section for those dynamic power-chord moments that presage punk rock,



You either get it or you don't

heavy metal and any derivative thereof.

In 2001, the release of the *Live at Leeds Deluxe Edition* finally brought to light the unexpurgated concert, including the abridged *Tommy* set. Now, forget what this says about me for a moment, but I have 19 different versions of *Tommy*: the original 1969 album, the film soundtrack, the home demos, the London Symphony Orchestra version and 15 different concert tapes. *Leeds* dwarfs them all. The 1969 studio version of *Tommy* is flawed—brilliant in some spots, silly and bloated in others. Loosed onstage, *Tommy* is transformed into an epic journey, the musical equivalent of the London Blitz. And when you hear perfectly intertwined improvisations on tracks like "Young Man Blues," "Shakin' All Over" and that bludgeoning *Götterdämmerung*, "My Generation," you realize that the Who's legacy remains intact, no matter how hard they've tried to ruin it over the past 30-plus years.

The *Live at Leeds Super Deluxe Edition* is a guided hypo missile aimed straight for the Who junkie's median cephalic vein. This pricy box set includes the complete Leeds concert (recorded on February 14, 1970), an unreleased performance from the following night in Hull, vinyl re-pressings of the original album and a European picture-sleeve seven-inch of "Summertime Blues," a poster and a hardbound book. Rumors that the Hull show topped Leeds turn out to be unfounded, but claims that *Live at Leeds* is the greatest live album of all time are hard to dispute. —Chris Simunek

## Girl Talk

*All Day*

(Illegal Art)



Listening to Greg Gillis's fifth album of mashed-up pomo pop culture harks back to the early days of rap. Back then, some people argued that hip-hop wasn't art because it was built on appropriation—as if that were something new. (Led Zeppelin, we're looking at you.) But there was a vibrancy and creativity to the sampling back then, and there's a similar energy behind Gillis's laptop work, which is as focused as ever on this album.



Rap vocals are the bread and butter of Gillis's sound, as he crisply meshes the rhythm and timbre of the lyrics to the tone and pace of familiar music beds. The combinations run from the amusing to the sublime: Belinda Carlisle's "Heaven Is a Place on Earth" over Derek and the Dominoes' "Layla"; Ol' Dirty Bastard's "Shimmy Shimmy Ya" b/w Radiohead's "Creep"; Beck's "Loser" against Snoop Dogg's "Drop It Like It's Hot." Among the many other instantly familiar snippets are Springsteen's "Dancing In the Dark," Peter Gabriel's "In Your Eyes," Lennon's "Imagine" and Fugazi's "Waiting Room."

Though it squeezes 373 samples into 71 minutes, *All Day* is unobtrusive and smooth, not as dizzying as Gillis's 2006 breakthrough, *Night Ripper* (150 samples, 42 minutes), or 2008's brilliant *Feed the Animals* (322 samples, 53 minutes). Whether through the influence of his sweaty live shows or a general refinement of his process, *All Day* feels like a party. It's not as self-consciously showy as *Feed the Animals*, but remarkably listener-friendly: It doesn't need to be the center of attention as it surreptitiously puts your ass in gear.—Chris Parker

## Lionize

*Destruction Manual*

(Hardline Entertainment)



Winners of the 2010 HIGH TIMES

Doobie Award for Best

Reggae/Soul Record with *Space Pope and the Glass Machine*, Lionize have now followed up that triumph with this 12-song LP, which further explores their potent blend of rock, funk and reggae. Produced by J. Robbins of Jawbox, and featuring guest appearances by such luminaries as David Hinds and Selwyn Brown of Steel Pulse and Tim Sult of Clutch, *Destruction Manual* highlights the rewards of relentless touring.

Over the course of playing some 250 live shows in the past two years, Lionize have built up a loyal following and tightened up their unique sound, which shifts easily from heavy stoner-rock riffs to rootsy dub rhythms and back again. Anchored by the relentless rhythm section of drummer LaMel Randolph and bassist Henry Upton, *Destruction Manual* showcases the band's deft mashup of genres, with Nathan Bergman's heartfelt vocals and blistering guitar licks complemented by wailing Hammond organ melodies from Chris Brooks.

As they scorch through tunes like the crunchy "You're Trying to Kill Me" and "Savior of Fontana," the catchy "Dumb and Dangerous," or the expansive rocksteady of "Nation Builders," there's no mistaking these guys for cruise-ship reggae: Lionize call to mind the Police, Sublime or the Clash at their finest. The album's closer, "Surrender," ends with the repeated refrain "It's a danger zone, a battlefield, and I got no shield," reminding us of the vulnerability that a hard outer shell is meant to protect—a perfect metaphor for Lionize's singular sound.—Danny Danko

## Gilbert Shelton

*The Fabulous Furry Freak*

*Brothers Omnibus*

(Knockabout Comics)



Proving that long-term memory



loss is as much a recreational-smoking hazard as short-term, the exact date that the Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers made their comic-stripped debut has been lost in a haze of contradictory reportage, though we can say with scientific certainty that it was approximately 40 years ago. Even so, the three stoner stooges remain perfect entertainment for baked slackers in the 21st century with their famed *cri de cœur* of "Dope will get you through times of no money better than money will get you through times of no dope."

This anthology collects 624 pages of brainy Phineas, doltish Fat Freddy and curmudgeonly Freewheelin' Frank (as well as Fat Freddy's Cat, who serves as the brothers' Greek chorus). The vehicle for cartoonist Gilbert Shelton's bemused and cannabinoid-heavy observations on what sociologists like to call the counterculture, the trio enjoys (or endures) adventures running the gamut from the lowbrow and scatological to the circuitously psychedelic. Though the cameo players evolve from disco threads through punk mohawks, the hirsute Freaks continue to inhabit a perpetual 1969.

Any neuronaut and/or comic book fan knows that the herbalized imagination has no limits. Thus, when Phineas becomes the World's First Pregnant Man, or the brothers have a fender-bender with an apoplectic and unforgiving Jesus Christ, the experienced reader will not mistake the heroes' stoned state for a mental disorder. To paraphrase the late Walt Kelly: We have met the Fabulous Furry Freak Brothers, and they are us. —Michael Simmons

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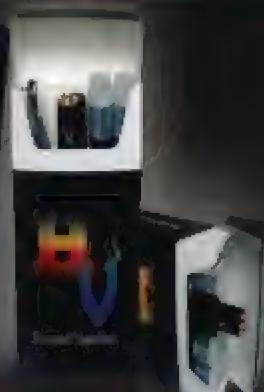
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brain damage control

# DIGGING FOR COMEDY

**Amid terrible tragedy, we can still find humor—even though it hurts.** By Paul Krassner

It was Steve Allen—and, later, Lenny Bruce—who said, “Comedy is tragedy plus time.” But everything is accelerating—even the rate of acceleration is accelerating—and the time between tragedy and comedy gets shorter and shorter.

Reality has long been nipping at the heels of comedy, and it finally caught up. Example: On the same day that people were being burned alive in the fire at the Branch Davidian headquarters in Waco, TX, Jay Leno did a joke in his *Tonight* show monologue about there being two kinds of cult members there—“regular and crispy.”

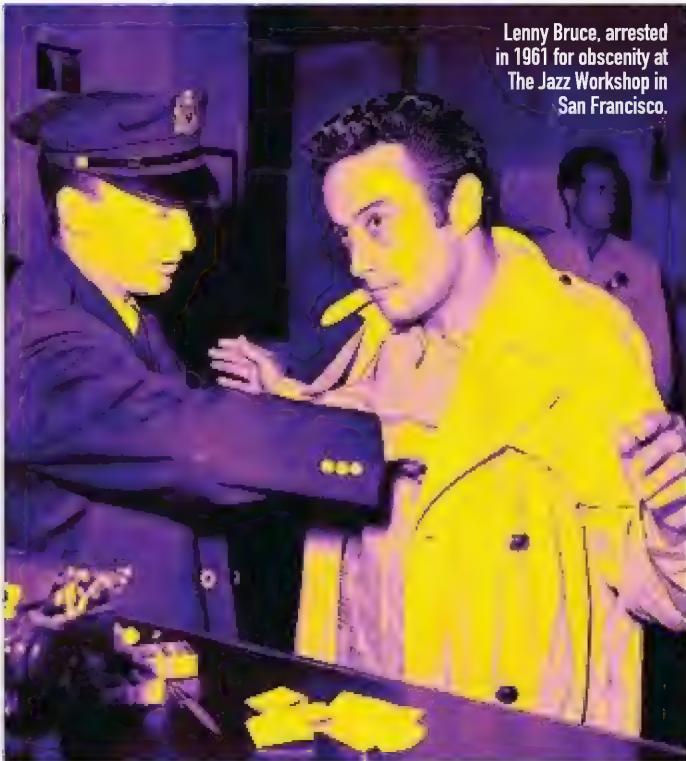
The events themselves, such as the recent madman’s massacre outside a Safeway supermarket in Tucson, can be challenging. How could made-up humor possibly top the actual absurdity of mass murderer Jared Loughner asking his MySpace friends not to be mad at him? After all, he was merely planning to indiscriminately kill as many innocent human beings as he could, with democracy itself as collateral damage.

The night before Loughner committed his senseless slaughter, he had taken photos of himself posing with his gun while wearing a G-string and displaying his naked ass. Satirist Harry Shearer observed: “The nightmare in Tucson is the inevitable result of a society where a mentally confused young man can purchase a red G-string anywhere at any time, and pose with it as he sees fit. Can’t we all agree now to lower the temperature on underwear?”

Speaking of lowering the temperature, in the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*, editorial cartoonist Rob Rogers depicted the “US Civil Discourse Gun Shop,” in which a customer asks the clerk: “Do you have anything versatile enough to go from a campaign breakfast to a protest march to a Town Hall meeting?”

And in the *Orlando Sentinel*, cartoonist Dana Summers drew another gun store selling semi-automatic weapons with a 31-bullet clip. In the drawing, the clerk explains to a customer: “Say you have 31 burglars break into your house ....”

On the Monday following the tragic weekend, Jon Stewart was unable to find anything funny to say about it. Nor could Stephen Colbert, though he did present a montage of news clips with various explanations for Loughner’s behavior. The final one, from Fox News—“He is also being described as a left-wing political pothead”—man-



Lenny Bruce, arrested in 1961 for obscenity at The Jazz Workshop in San Francisco.

aged to evoke laughter from the audience.

In October 2008, Loughner told an old friend, Bryce Tierney, that he wasn’t going to smoke marijuana any more. Tierney never saw him smoke pot after that and was surprised at media reports that Loughner was rejected by the Army in 2009 for failing a drug test: “He was clean .... I saw him after that continuously. He would not do it ... after he quit, he was just off the wall.”

But Loughner did *not* fail a drug test at the processing station. Rather, he admitted on an application form that he had smoked marijuana “hundreds of times.” He didn’t know that the military has an official maximum number of times that you can admit to smoking pot in the past.

A journalist I know acknowledges that he tried to join the Air Force at the San Diego recruitment office, but “when the subject of drugs came up, I figured, ‘Okay, I have long hair, I look maybe homeless, they’re going to know I’m lying if I say I’ve always been straight. I’ll say I’ve smoked pot seven or eight times—something ridiculously, embarrassingly low. Whatever it was, it was too high. The recruiter said, ‘You can’t have smoked more than five times. Go away, kid—maybe the Marines will take you.’ Two weeks later, I was at the Sacramento recruitment office and I had the ‘magic number.’ I joined the Air Force—one of the stupider things I’ve done.” \*

*Paul Krassner’s latest book is an expanded edition of his autobiography, Confessions of a Raving, Unconfined Nut: Misadventures in the Counterculture. Every day is visiting day at paulkrassner.com.*



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## HIGH TIMES UNSIGNED BAND OF THE MONTH

### HOCUS POCUS

Hocus Pocus are becoming well-known for original compositions executed with a visceral touch and attractive dynamics, as well as their striking presence and vintage timbres. The band creates rock-'n-roll infused with Latin rhythms, swing approaches, and the freedom and expression of the blues.

Hocus Pocus have been part of a growing wave since 2003. They began playing bars and student parties in Londrina, Brazil, then hit clubs, pubs, venues and festivals throughout Europe in 2009—including Germany, Holland, Switzerland, Austria and the Czech Republic—on the promotional tour for their album, *The City Shakes*.

Every member of the band graduated from the Music College of the Universidade Estadual de Londrina (UEL, the state university in Londrina). Currently, the video for their song “Electric City Muse” from *The City Shakes* is getting play on MTV Brazil. The band has been praised for blending blues and Latin intentions into hard rock, which results in a vibrant and unusual rock'n'roll identity.

For more information on Hocus Pocus, including audio samples and tour dates, check out [hightimes.com/HocusPocus](http://hightimes.com/HocusPocus).

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## ALMOST INFAMOUS

BY BOBBY BLACK

# THE REVOLUTION IS TELEVISED

For as long as I can remember, whenever I'd see anything about marijuana on television—whether it be in a sitcom, a drama or on the news—it was always portrayed in a negative light. But as of late, that's finally begun to change, and last year's

Prop. 19 push in California brought the legalization movement into the mainstream media in a big way. In fact, cable TV has been flooded with a slew of special reports and documentaries about pot—many of which, while attempting to appear unbiased, have leaned decidedly in our direction. For instance:

In early November, CNN ran a weeklong series called *Marijuana on the Ballot* on its daytime *CNN Newsroom* program, which featured an extensive segment on the history and mission of HIGH TIMES—including growing, civil liberties and the launch of our new medical-marijuana mag. The film crew came to our offices and shot interviews with a number of eminent staffers. Disappointingly, I wasn't among them—however, I did get some screen time in the footage they shot of our editorial meeting.

About a month later, CNBC aired *Marijuana USA*, the sequel to last year's *Marijuana Inc.* special. This one featured a Kentucky anti-drug strike force, Oaksterdam University in Northern Cali, and the cannabis “gold rush” in Colorado. One of the segments focused on a clinic just outside of Denver called Relaxed Clarity—the very clinic I had visited on my trip there last July. I was covering the medical scene and wanted to learn about the prescription process for myself. The folks at Relaxed Clarity walked me through the entire process, as though I were actually applying for a medical-marijuana recommendation myself—I filled out the paperwork, was examined by Dr. James Boland, and even received a mock temporary medical card. The staff were super-friendly and pretty excited to have an editor from HIGH TIMES at their establishment—so much so that they asked me to autograph one of their T-shirts, which was hanging on the wall in the waiting room. Well imagine my surprise when, watching the program these several months

later, I noticed that same T-shirt as the backdrop for CNBC's interview with Dr. Boland!

But by far the coolest pot special I saw last year had to be *Marijuana: A Chronic History*, a comprehensive two-hour documentary on the

History Channel. The show briefly chronicled the plan's entire story: its various states of legality in the US and around the world (including the Emerald Triangle, Jamaica, Portugal, and Amsterdam), dispensaries and delivery services, even edibles and lab testing. It also featured interviews with pot proponents like NORML director Alan St. Pierre, musician Melissa Etheridge, former HT editor Larry “Ratso” Sloman, and comedians Joe Rogan and Doug Benson—as well as opposing opinions from the likes of Drug Czar Gil Kerlikowske, the heads of several law-enforcement agencies, and a dimwit named Alexandra Datig, the founder of some anti-weed organization called Nip It in the Bud.

Now, as a veteran pot reporter, specials like these rarely show me anything I haven't already seen. But around half an hour in, I saw something that I never expected to see—myself. Apparently, the good folks over at History International had contacted the powers that be here at HT and obtained permission to use excerpts from our *20th Anniversary Cannabis Cup* DVD in their special, and ended up using it as their “stock” stoner footage. So there I was (along with most of my co-workers), sniffing, rolling and blazing a ton of choice strains at the Cup Temple in Amsterdam—again and again for nearly an hour of the show. Better yet, I even had a line: “the Holy Hand Grenade,” a reference from *Monty Python and the Holy Grail* that I jokingly made in regard to a particularly large nug. I must say, to be so prominently featured in the History Channel's definitive “potumentary” was quite an unanticipated honor.

Someday, when cannabis is finally legal and accepted and HIGH TIMES has its own television network, I'll host my own stoner-lifestyle show and truly make history. In the meantime, I guess I'll have to settle for news-clip cameos. \*



Bobby tags up at the Relaxed Clarity clinic.



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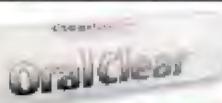


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# PURITY AND POTENCY

**Steep Hill Lab is setting guidelines for healthy, effective cannabis—and the industry is responding. In fact, Steep Hill's SafeCannabis seal of approval is on its way to becoming the nationally recognized standard for quality assurance.** By Samantha Nicholas

It's located in a nondescript, boxlike building in Oakland, CA. Nothing in the building's appearance suggests that it houses the leading cannabis lab in the US. But behind those doors, over 16,000 samples of medical pot have been tested since 2008.

This is the Steep Hill Cannabis Analysis Laboratory, where California growers and dispensaries submit their products to make sure they're pure, pesticide-free and properly measured for potency. It's as though Steep Hill has planted a flag in the end zone and already declared victory for an industry that's still in its infancy. Essentially, the message of Steep Hill is this: "We have established a viable industry; now let's build upon that success and create the best cannabis products in the marketplace."

The laboratory was founded by two veteran medical-pot growers who'd been cultivating legal crops since the passage of California's historic Prop. 215, which sanctioned the use of marijuana by medical patients. Addison DeMoura, who owned a dispensary, recognized that the epic amount of cannabis being harvested annually in California necessitated a team of scientific watchdogs who could ensure that what consumers were smoking wasn't potentially dangerous.

DeMoura teamed up with David Lampach, also a grower, who committed himself to becoming an expert in gas chromatography/mass spectrometry analysis, which allows testers to precisely identify different substances within a sample. GC/MS can also identify trace elements in materials that were previously thought to have disintegrated beyond identification.

Lampach was responsible for developing the rigid potency-testing regimen that the lab currently uses, while DeMoura sought out new clients. Success for the enterprise soon followed, but with it came a new set of responsibilities and business requirements.

Enter AnnaRae Grabstein, a business-management specialist, who now serves as Steep Hill's CEO.

"My job is basically to pull things together," Grabstein says, "making sure that we implement the programs we've developed in a standardized fashion across the board. Our company is different and new from anything in the industry: We're teaching the people who don't know a lot about marketing that it's time for them to differentiate their product by showing that it's high-quality—and that it's safe."

Steep Hill tests for THC, CBD and CBN potency. Most pot smokers know that THC is the psychoactive component in cannabis. However, cannabidiol (CBD), which is non-psychoactive, has been shown to be extraordinarily successful in relieving pain and other health issues. Newcomers to cannabis medicine seeking an analgesic effect can mitigate the unpredictability of a high-THC stone by selecting a strain higher in CBD.

Cannabinol (CBN) is a different matter altogether: It results from the degradation of the harvested product due to exposure to light and air. Storing cannabis in a cool, dark, airtight container reduces CBN. At the same time, CBN is mildly psychoactive; in fact,



The SafeCannabis seal will revolutionize how consumers purchase pot.



Dispensary workers at SPARC know that healthy medicine requires safe handling.



AnnaRae Grabstein, David Lampach, and Addison DeMoura guide Steep Hill.

some researchers believe that CBN is responsible for the drowsiness that many people say they experience when they smoke, making it useful for patients seeking a sedative effect.

Obviously, med-pot consumers must consider a variety of factors when they decide upon a product to purchase. Thankfully, Steep Hill has made that process a lot simpler with the institution of its SafeCannabis testing program.

"It comprises all of the quality-control testing that we currently offer [and] bundles it into one cohesive program," Grabstein says. "We market that seal and that certification so that people can

## Consumers no longer need to rely on the reputation of a grower or the well-meaning assurances of a budtender.

learn to identify the SafeCannabis seal and know that it's been tested for pesticide residues, microorganism contaminants and potency.

"We are interested in following the California certification model. The California Certified Organic Farm Association is a good example: They have a logo and a seal, and when a farm gets certified, that seal accompanies all of its packaging. It's a mark that consumers can recognize for quality and standards. This is the very first certification program for cannabis in the US. We're setting a standard."

Growers and dispensaries that have their products tested can take advantage of Steep

Hill's packaging services for legal medical-growing operations. The tamper-proof packaging keeps products fresh, substantially reducing mold and bacterial growth and significantly reducing degradation and discoloration; it also includes oxygen and humidity indicators to show if the package has been tampered with. Clients can use the lab's Certificate of Analysis results to label their packages. This allows growers to distribute their products to dispensaries with the SafeCannabis seal, accompanied by the results log and information for documenting and validating the analysis.

The dispensaries can use the supplied information to validate the authenticity of the SafeCannabis seal by contacting Steep Hill directly. With the identifying batch and lot numbers on each package, the dispensary can track the results and ensure that the products have been analyzed. As a result, the packaging meets the chain-of-custody requirements linking the contents to the lab analysis, and patients are assured that the medicine they receive has been tested. Consumers no longer need to rely on the reputation of a grower or the well-meaning assurances of a budtender behind the counter. Now cannabis buyers can read the stats on the product themselves before buying.

Steep Hill already works with over 200 different dispensaries. "We've just rolled out the product," Grabstein says. "We have a number of edible producers that are currently on board, and they're actively getting their products certified right now. Once dispensaries start receiving bags of cannabis in our standardized packaging directly from the growers, they're not going to want to buy cannabis that hasn't been sealed and packaged in a standardized, safe way, with the quality-control results that go along with it. It will change everything."

In effect, Steep Hill has established a new tier of competition and a more meticulous breed of pot grower. Those who want to stay in business must improve their techniques to meet these new quality standards. Fundamentally, it's put-up-or-shut-up time. \*

Visit [steephilllab.com](http://steephilllab.com).



Elemental Wellness has embraced the SafeCannabis seal and their business thrives.

## AN INDUSTRY MATURES

### Two California collectives provide top patient care.

When Steep Hill Lab first introduced its SafeCannabis testing program, Elemental Wellness immediately signed on. Addison DeMoura, who introduced the program to the collective, says the results have been both gratifying and pleasantly surprising. "The concept has blown people away," DeMoura reports. "Patients want assurance of quality, and they're getting it. People are actually asking if collectives have specific strains that are SafeCannabis-tested—and if not, why not?"

But if the history of Elemental Wellness is any indication, the patients will have their way. Like any other successful business that wants to retain customers through exemplary service, Elemental Wellness unveils new programs monthly. The members of this San Jose collective already have access to cultivation, cooking and yoga classes, as well as seminars on legal issues and how to start a cannabusiness. Needless to say, though, it's the great strains that keep patients returning.

This sleek, inviting collective features long showcases of

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"We know what the hell we put in our plants," says SPARC's Erich Pearson.



SPARC is decorated with a nod toward Asian simplicity.

Steep Hill-tested strains, including True OG, last year's second-place winner at the HIGH TIMES Medical Cannabis Cup in San Francisco. In the gardens where Elemental's prize strains are grown, simplicity reigns. Well water processed with simple filters is used. Fresh nutrients are mixed in every day—a combination of organics mixed with coco plus some high-quality inorganic nutrients. The concoction provides consistent, stable results.

"It's as simple as you can get," says the grower. "I feel that it's really necessary to come in and look at the plants every day. Hand-watering prevents any failure of automation; we know everything gets watered. We're able to time the process and see when it drains out. Ours is just a simple drain-away—the waste collects in a reservoir and then gets pumped out, where it's reused out in my backyard for other plants."

"The garden isn't running CO<sub>2</sub>," he continues. "This is a free-air system; it's bringing in air from outside. We're not sealing any type of CO<sub>2</sub>. Our air conditioning is just more effective—we're able to get the temperatures that we need and not pump CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere."

"Right now, everything is about three weeks into flower. We have 90 plants, one 1,000-watt light for each of 10 trays. The most expensive things we have are the digital ballasts. I can dim them down to 600 during the first couple of weeks; I can dim them down to 600 during the last couple of weeks. If you've only got one room and you're gonna skimp on things, don't skimp on the ballasts!"

For pest control, he sometimes uses a simple sulfur burner instead of rely-

ing on pesticides. The grower points out with pride that his crop of Platinum Bubba Kush is entirely pest- (and pesticide-)free.

"It's our biggest problem here in California," he says, "especially working in a collective, where we're in cahoots with other growers all the time."

Because of the health issues that mold can pose, before he starts a new garden, everything in the growroom is pulled out; then the floors are painted and resealed. This is because dispensaries that also operate growrooms are ethically bound to provide the healthiest product possible. Understandably, Elemental Wellness calls itself "the next generation of cannabis collectives."

Another member of this next generation is the San Francisco Patient Resource Center (SPARC), one of the city's premier medical-marijuana dispensaries, which operates as a vertically integrated company (i.e., a supply chain united through a common owner—each member or link in the chain produces a different product or provides a different service, but each contributes to filling a common need).

**'You don't have control of the quality. Some people may re-moisturize it; some people may make it drier. The bottom line is that it arrives way too expensive.'**

At SPARC, vertical integration is embraced. Under the guidance of director Erich Pearson, the center oversees a number of flourishing growrooms that turn out pounds of top-notch medicine, as well as outdoor gardens that are efficient and productive enough to generate medicine that only costs between \$140 and \$160 per ounce.

"We have \$35 eighths that we've created—Green Dragon, which is [also known as] Green Crack," Pearson says. "Our prices are unheard of. We're cutting out the black market where a lot of marijuana originates. Actually, it's more of a gray market—but the medicine goes through six different hands, and someone is always adding their cut."

"Often, you have to pay a middleman just to meet someone," he continues. "But that [middleman] is getting \$100 a pound, and they never even touched it—they just introduced someone. It's problematic, because you have product moving through all these different hands, and you don't have control of the quality. Some people may re-moisturize it; some people may make it drier. The bottom line is that it arrives way too expensive."

Steep Hill Lab tests all of SPARC's medicine for THC, CBD and mold with Steep Hill and those figures are posted on packages of medicine and on the SPARC menu. Pearson explains: "With vertical integration, we don't have to test for pesticides, because we know what the hell we put on our plants. We do test for mold, because even though we grow ourselves, you have to be vigilant."

And the prices? Remarkable. No ounce costs more than \$260, and the highest eighth tops out at \$55 (Banana Diesel, with a THC content of 20.5 percent).

The headquarters for the collective is spacious, decorated with a nod toward Asian simplicity. SPARC's services tend to incorporate the use of cannabis with practices aimed toward boosting inner wellness. SPARC hosts a variety of support groups, as well as ayurvedic cooking classes, art therapy, and a number of different group meditations that include cannabis use.

"Members of our collective come to us first for medicine," Pearson says. "Over time, we want them to utilize other healing techniques that can help them address their problems." \*

Visit [elementalwellnesscenter.com](http://elementalwellnesscenter.com) and [sparcsf.org](http://sparcsf.org).

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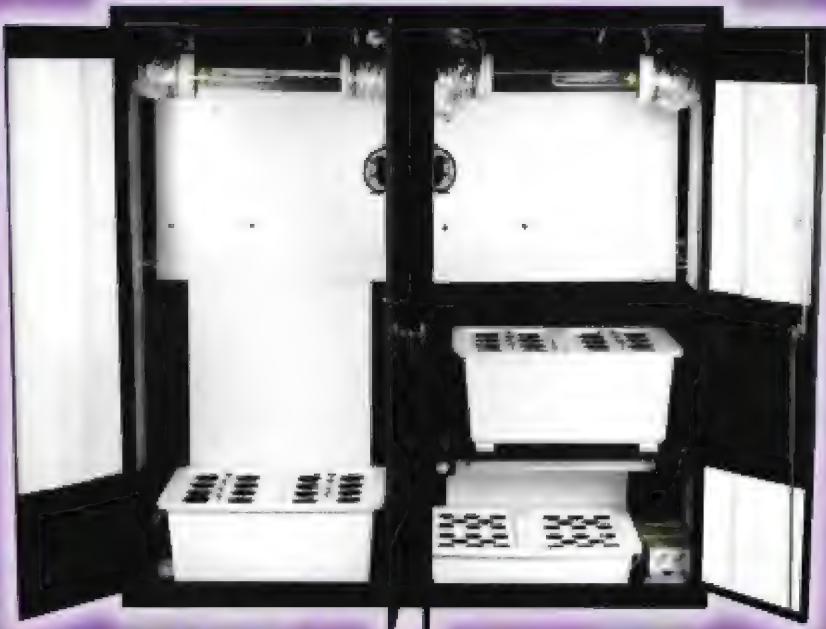
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# glass go



All across America, glass artists have unleashed their imaginations, and the artistry has never been more impressive. However, an entirely different set of skills is required to market the products of this vibrant industry. By Dan Skye

For an instructive lesson on the power of our community, let us look to the Lone Star State. Big Mike's House of Glass sits prominently on the corner of a busy intersection in Lewisville, a suburb of Dallas. Big Mike, the proprietor, had been spending \$1,400 a week for local radio spots. But over the course of a few months, his hoped-for increase in store traffic had been negligible.

Then, while attending an industry trade show in order to stock up on new glassware for his store, he was stopped dead in his tracks, mesmerized by a reggae-colored bubbler festooned with pot leaves. What he was looking at was actually the Jamaica-themed pipe—blown by brothers Tristan and Banjo, two of the industry's top artists—that graced our cover back in March '08. Big Mike was smitten. He plunked down a few

thou and carried the pipe back to his store, where he placed it in a special showcase for his customers to admire.

In a matter of days, Big Mike noticed a considerable uptick in traffic. The local stoner network was buzzing: "Check out Big Mike's! He's got the HIGH TIMES cover pipe!"

Big Mike figured that if one fabulous pipe could increase traffic, why not get a whole bunch? He stopped buying radio ads and used the cash instead to purchase more high-end pieces—garish, often outlandish creations suffused with what he calls the "wow!" factor. Even more customers poured in to see his arsenal of sophisticated (yet steeply priced) glass smokeware.

Today, Big Mike no longer needs the airwaves to broadcast; the stoner community has tuned in.

"The fact is, I don't get a whole lot of buyers for these pipes," he explains. "They're pretty expensive, and I'm not sure if I would even want to sell some of them; it's kinda my private collection now. The point is, people come in here and *ooh* and *aah* over the pipes—it's a magnet. Then they usually buy a piece that they can afford. In fact, before they leave, everybody seems to buy something or other."

"Something or other" is what you'll find at Big Mike's, one of the premier "tobacco accessory" shops in the country. He's stocked his shelves with every conceivable shape, size and style of pipe, and in every conceivable price range. He even carries primitive metal pipes, circa 1967, for old stoners who never change their ways.

The intricacy of  
this bubbler  
created by  
Marcel Braun  
rivals the  
handiwork of  
Mother Nature  
herself!

# glass of 2011



Dellene Peralta, who created this dragon, is widely regarded as the top female artist in glass smokeware.



Big Mike poses with his prized possessions.

Both the radius and the ulna are represented in this arm-length creation by Arturo Ulloa.



**Business is booming for Big Mike, because he's rigorously focused his team of six full-time employees on customer service—being friendly as well as knowledgeable about top glass artists and the techniques they use.**

“Every customer experience has to be a happy one,” he says. “We depend on return business.”

He admits to being a “hard man to work for,” but he takes good care of his employees as long as they follow the rules—rules that have allowed Big Mike to remain successful and legal.

“I follow the letter of the law,” he says firmly. “Nobody enters who’s under 18. And if you start talking about drugs in any way, we’ll ask you to leave. It doesn’t mean you can’t come back another day, but we won’t tolerate talk of illegal activities—it’s how undercover cops shut you down. All my merchandise is for tobacco use only; that’s what it’s intended for. So if you talk about bongs, we’ll ask you to leave too. I know these are silly word games, but it’s the law.”



The artist known as Salt gives life to his private nightmares in this Cyclops bong.



Nate Dizzle is known for creating interactive smokeware, like this electric guitar which can be lit up or cranked up.



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## glass of 2011



Bear Claw is a glass artist who often creates smokeware with tribal themes.

Carson Carlyle's spooky skeletal archer takes aim.



Some may scoff at the disingenuous nature of doing business in the pipe industry, but the organized advocacy that characterizes the legal cannabis movement is absent on paraphernalia issues. Headshop owners are on the front lines everyday—alone—and they're bound by strict guidelines. Compliance equals survival.

Federal law defines "drug paraphernalia" as products that are primarily intended or designed for ingesting, inhaling or otherwise using controlled substances. Unfortunately, the law leaves the human element out of the equation: You don't have an illegal intention; the pipe does! Regardless of whether you fill your bowl with tobacco or some other herb mixture, it's still a marijuana pipe. That's why the semantical tap dance is necessary. Fundamentally, it seems, the Feds object to color: A traditional tobacco pipe is wood, very adult and distinguished-looking, and usually brown or a black/brown combination. Comic-book colors and adornments like little gremlins or butterflies are forbidden; according to Uncle Sam, only a pot smoker could possibly appreciate such frippery. So dealing in glass paraphernalia can still be dangerous.

The entire industry took a hard jolt seven years ago when the US Justice Department mounted Operations Head-hunter and Pipe Dreams. Companies with websites that shipped glass over state lines were targeted. Fifty people were busted, and 11 dot-coms were shut down—not much of a victory, but it certainly gave the industry the tremors, especially when the Feds thumped their chest and bellowed: "People selling drug paraphernalia are in essence no different from drug dealers. They are as much a part of drug trafficking as silencers are a part of criminal homicide" (to quote then-Acting DEA Administrator John B. Brown).

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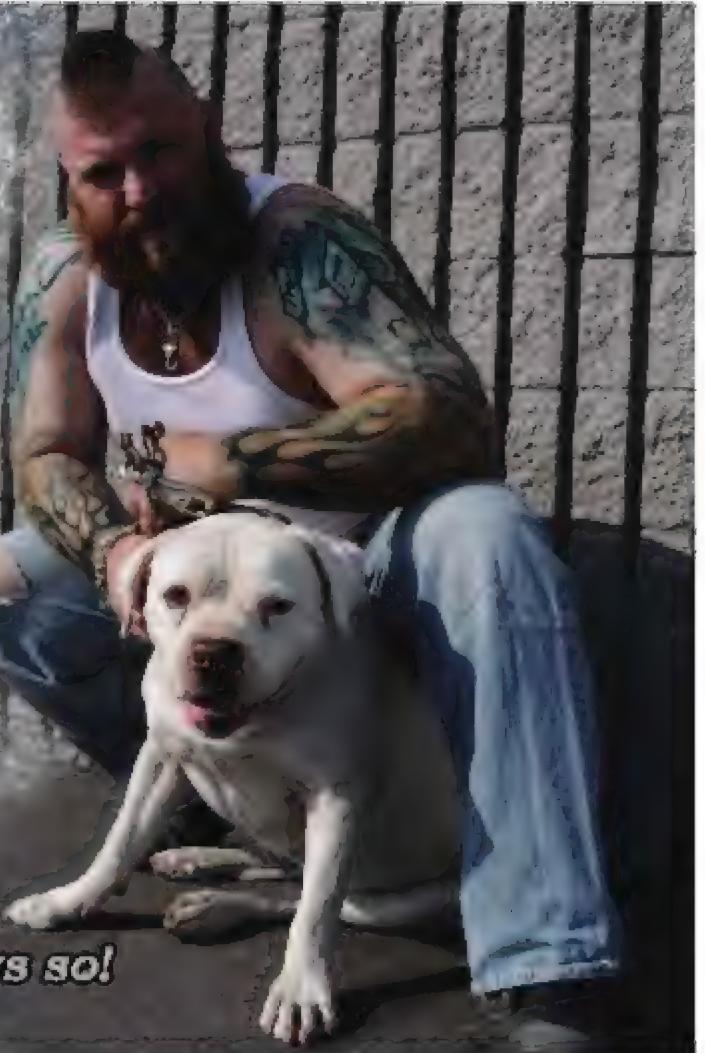
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# glass of 2011

Temporarily, commerce went underground. Websites vanished and top artists began selling their pieces on a private basis. But, in reality, nothing has changed too dramatically. In fact, many would say the landscape for the industry has improved. Glass-smokeware competitions are becoming commonplace, while training classes for aspiring glassblowers are packed. And, thankfully, headshops can still do business in America without harassment—provided they operate in a progressive, tolerant community and strive to walk a straight and narrow path.

In our current economic climate, it's significant that the cannabis industry (and all its offshoots) is flourishing, providing jobs and stability for thousands of Americans, even as other businesses flounder. No better example exists than Kaos Glass, a Southern California-based glass-smokeware manufacturer, which has been turning out handsome, solidly made products since 1998. Between glassblowers, salespeople, packers and other assorted workers, Kaos employs a workforce of 50. Many of these are immigrants with families.

A gentle giant named Tater serves as spokesman for Kaos. "This is a strong industry; this is a real industry," he says. "It's real manufacturing in America. We're still making something—this isn't a pie-in-the-sky Ponzi scheme. We exist because people like our glass. We've found the right price point for what we do. Our quality keeps us in existence."

Darby is a veteran artist who deals in themes of happiness. Who wouldn't want to be marooned with this stash of fresh Death Star buds?





# glass of Kaos



Kaos focuses on what it sees as the vast middle-range market, what people can realistically afford to spend on a pipe.

As Tater says: "I'm a kid in a candy store when I go to an exhibition. I give all praise to what these top artists are doing, but the Kaos business model is not based on that. Our base is what we perceive as the majority of the market. The ultra-high end? It doesn't move fast enough. It's just too much to invest in for most headshops."

What you're going to get from Kaos is a solid and pretty piece of glass. Moreover, the company produces well over 500 different styles of pipe.

"This industry is no different from any other," Tater points out. "There are collectors with the economic means behind them. You see guitars going at auction at a million five—does it really play that much different than the guitar you get for two grand? I don't know; you tell me."

It's a *perception* of value, and this industry is no different. Pipes are worth what you're willing to pay for them. But we own the market for the highest middle-range quality."

One of the thorns in the side of the industry is the plague of cheap imported pipes that have made their way into the marketplace. Often manufactured with sweatshop labor and disguised as something other than paraphernalia, these pipes arrive without a bowl hole. Ken of Chameleon Glass in Phoenix, AZ, explains what happens next: "Later, the bowl hole is drilled out, which severely weakens the pipe at precisely the point that it needs to be at its strongest due to the constant heating and cooling of the bowl, which causes expansion and contraction. Drilling ruins pipe strength and leaves glass shards and powder for the user to inhale. The shards and powder, similar to asbestos, cause silicosis—a permanent and debilitating disease similar to mesothelioma."

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Darby once again demonstrates his affinity for pipes with a natural theme in four different impressions of cacti.



## glass of zon

Sheldon Black Designs specializes in premium, handblown smokeware featuring "triple-thick" sample size bowl, removable and fixed microfiltration downstem systems, and ground glass joints.



Customs officials have been more vigilant about imported smokeware in recent years, but it still slips through. Aside from the legal constraints, many would like to see more cooperation between different sectors of the cannabis industry.

"People say, 'Hey, dispensaries are opening up—that must be great for you.' Well, not really," Tater says. "They're squeezing out the traditional retailer, because they don't value the sale of a pipe as much. If they're making their cut off of selling the medicine, they'll throw in a pipe to build brand awareness, but it devalues the overall value of a pipe. You can't sell medicine at your headshop—you have to keep margin inside of those pipes. But a dispensary uses a pipe as a giveaway; they don't mind because their margin is made up in the medicine that they're selling. What is the general quality of these things? Not good."

But America leads the world in glass artistry, and the pipemakers, specifically, have revolutionized and modernized the craft of glassblowing. Even so, with glass smokeware as the poor stepchild of the legalization movement, discretion remains of the utmost importance. Medical marijuana is gaining acceptance, but the ornate bong that one might use to medicate still scares people.

"Seventy percent of the country favors some type of legalization and taxing," opines Tater. "How many more people can we afford to put in prison? How many poor people do we, as taxpayers, pay to put in prison—or how many people do we actually put to work? Kaos is proof of that. Everybody works; everybody works hard; everybody contributes. This is a lifeline for so many different families and people. We're just not doing anything wrong." \*

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# ALL GROWN UP

This California medical grower started out a few years back with a few tables in an unused bedroom in her house. Now she's growing out a custom-built hydro system in a warehouse under 16,000 watts.

BY JENNY FLOWERS  
PHOTOS BY FREEBIE

**My first California growroom** was my whole life. Each hour spent, every dollar invested, all of my thoughts were centered on that 6,000-watt master bedroom. Like the well-trained owner of a snobby show dog, the garden and I shared a personality and a daily schedule and were basically co-dependent. It was the culmination of a lifelong dream.

I think back to the hours of grooming and days spent preparing for my first visit from Freebie—longtime hero and *numero uno* cannabis photographer for HIGH TIMES. Before he showed up, I devoted hours to inspecting each of those 180 plants and removing every purple petiole or wind-scarred leaf.

Now, two years later, my hours in the garden are not spent on vanity. As a commercial grower with multiple gardens to manage, grooming is standard for sanitation and maintenance. Reservoirs are larger, the jobs take longer, and experienced help is hard to find. The trim crew have been promoted to second-string gardeners, and the cycles come and go so quickly.



Zappa

These top-heavy Blue Cheese buds need support or they will fall over

Sativa-dominant Super Sour plants grow tall. Growth is stripped away towards the bottom of the plants to concentrate energy at the top for big, dense buds.



## The basic priorities for top-quality bud are clean growrooms and healthy plants.

### Building the Rooms

The basic priorities for top-quality bud are clean growrooms and healthy plants. This is achieved by complete environmental control in closed systems. Each growroom is sealed from the outside air, protecting it from pests, adulterants and changes in the environment. This sealed room was created by building a box inside of a 2,000-square-foot

warehouse unit. The box is made of insulated drywall and has a system of rooms separated by doors to isolate the controlled environments in the grow areas.

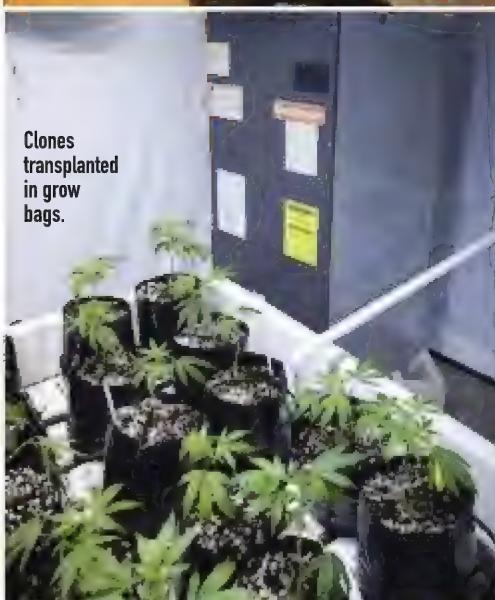
As I stand back today and admire the 10-foot walls, I realize how much they're taken for granted. The two-by-four-built frames, the rolls of R-13 insulation, and even the rough spackling were all carefully installed by our team of three dedicated, educated and well-equipped amateurs (myself included). Every inch is custom-made and hand-built.

The electric closet, which contains all of the timers and electrical systems, has every switch and outlet labeled to minimize mistakes. The 125 amps of power limit our ideal garden size to eight 1,000-watt lights ... *at a time*. Two eight-light rooms are mirrored across an adjoining wall; running on a "flip-flop" system, one room has daytime while the other side has its night. There is one shared air conditioner, powerful enough to cool one room at a time.

### Hydro-Drip System

At the beginning of the cycle, the warehouse is busy with helpers creating an 80/20 percent mix of coco to perlite and then hauling it into the first flowering room. The medium is scooped into 1-gallon grow bags that have the bottom two inches covered in washed hydroton for drainage. The stuffed bags are topped off with a 6- to 10-inch clone. Sixty times per eight tables, we carefully plant and trim each clone to resemble a tiny palm tree.

We punch 1/4" tubing into the plastic grow bags, securing the feed lines over the coco mix. The other side of these 1/4" tubes is fed by a 1/2" tube that runs lengthwise down the table. There are three 1/2" tubes feeding each table, connected with a three-pronged PVC manifold. Each manifold is plugged to a PVC outlet that disappears behind the wall and runs to a separate room containing three 250-gallon water totes and a hydrologic water filter. Each table has its own 1,000-gph (gallon per hour) pump moving the nutrient solution to the medium. There is usually one reservoir used for each of the two rooms, and a second one ready as a backup.



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## Vegging and Flowering Within the Limits

The flip-flop system offers an interesting challenge when long days are necessary. Because there's only enough power to run one room at a time, all of the clones are planted in the first flowering room. Labeled with colored stakes in bags squeezed side to side, 120 clones share each of four tables in order to receive 24 hours of light for seven to 10 days. Occasional foliar feeds of Nitrozyme or Liquid Light are applied. After the plants look strong and show root growth, half of

them are carried into the second flowering room.

Sixty plants of each strain are spread across four 4' x 8' tables in each of the two rooms. The timer is set to flip the system at noon and midnight, initiating the flowering cycle. The noon flip leaves ample time to tend both rooms during the daylight cycle. All of the strains chosen have a flowering time of approximately 60 days.

## Choosing Varieties

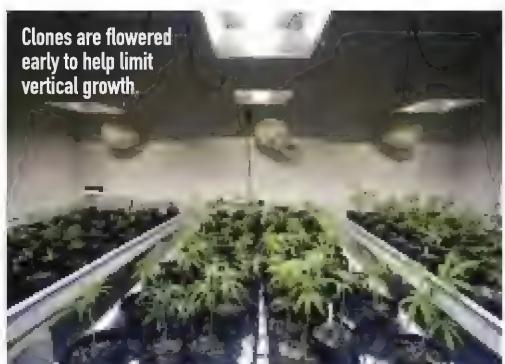
Many strains get their chance to shine when eight tables are harvested every other month, so selection is always available. Some tables hold proven winners, while others run strains for test purposes. The tester in this batch is Blue Cheese, a stinky phenotype of Blueberry x UK Cheese. There is usually at least one table of Ultra Violet, Grand-daddy Purple or Purple Kush, because the consistently deep purple color and taste are always in demand. These purple strains mature fast and are easy to trim at the end. Other strains that receive regular rotation include Casey Jones, Jack Herer and Chemdog. All of the strains have performed well in this system, to the pleasure of our club buyers, whose patients want something new under the counter each time they visit. The constant influx of new strains keeps an excitement in the garden and a principle of variety that has been a cornerstone since that first home grow.

## Feeding

The feeding schedule is simple and consistent. The timer on the 1,000-gph pumps is set for two 30-second waterings one minute apart, which are counted as one feeding. This will increase to two and then three feedings as the plants develop.

They are fed with a mixture of General Hydroponics Flora Nova, Micro and Bloom at a 6:9 ratio, diluted to 800 ppm, plus a heavy dose of SM-90 that helps to fight powdery mildew.

This recipe will not change until 32 days later when the Micro is cut out completely, removing all nitrogen from the feed mix. Seven days before harvest, the flushing begins, meaning the plants receive only fresh water, pH-balanced to 5.8-ish. Instead of running the flush water through the feed system, more salts are removed when we hand-wash using a pump and hose.



## Lighting

Sixteen non-air-cooled, 1,000-watt high-pressure sodium (HPS) lamps give the most lumens possible to each plant, which is important because light is energy that will be converted to dense, sticky buds. We have eight lights in each room, but all of the cords run through the ceiling to the 16 magnetic ballasts that are secured on the roof of the box, inside the upper limit of the warehouse ceiling. This is a good place for the hot ballasts, and it's accessible enough.

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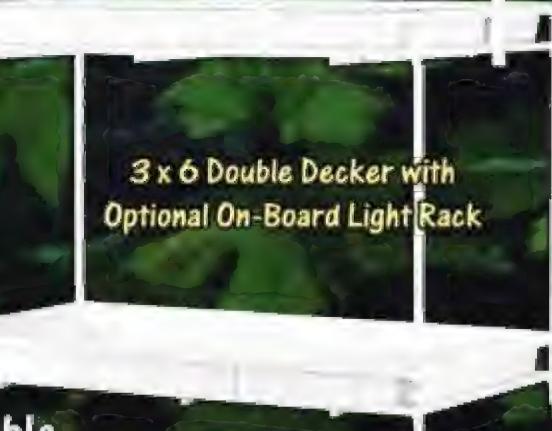
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### **Environmental Controls**

To balance the heat of 8,000 watts, a 4-ton split-unit air conditioner runs full-time; a damper on a timer in the ducting controls which room gets the blast of cold air. Instead of drawing attention with the outdoor components of the air conditioner, the compressor has a room within the system that is air-cooled with two 8-inch Vortex fans in the ceiling pulling cool air from the windows.

Running 24/7 in each room is a Santa Fe 100-pint-per-day dehumidifier, as well as many fans hanging from the walls or trellis or at various levels from the floor. This air movement is a strong defense against mold spores.

Sealed rooms require a supplement of carbon dioxide. The choice for this system is a 20-pound tank with a regulator in each room; each regulator is operated by a Sentinel environmental controller. Most of the features of the Sentinel go unused, but having a digital monitor readable from outside the room allows for closer observation during dark cycles.

Jack Herer close up.

**GRANDDADDY PURPLE**





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JACK HERER



and looks like this.

### Harvesting & Drying

Harvesting happens over a week or two with a crop this size. Each morning, before the warehouse neighbors can be offended by the smell, the plants are cut down, usually one or two tables per day. Sealed into large plastic boxes and loaded into a van, the buds are transported to the trim location, where they are manicured immediately. In a cozy living room, I see most of the same trimmers that helped us labor through the first few harvests; now they are skilled and confident.



Purple Kush anyone?

MAY 2011 71

Grandaddy Purple buds before and after manicure.



The trimming station.

We use the same system for this part of the harvest as we always have. Tomato cages are convenient units for drying and carrying the stems of trimmed bud. In the dark dry room, a dehumidifier maintains 60% humidity, and the house thermostat holds the temperature at 65°F. After five to seven days, the dry buds are cut from the stem and sealed in plastic boxes that are burped daily until the following week, when they are sold to the local cannabis club.

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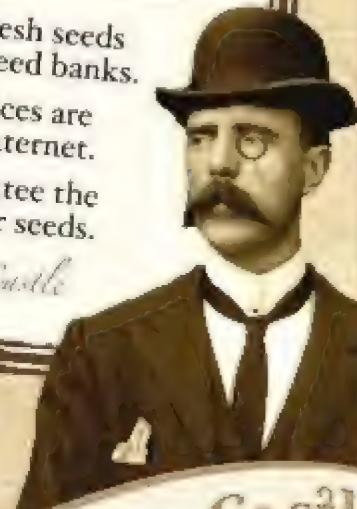
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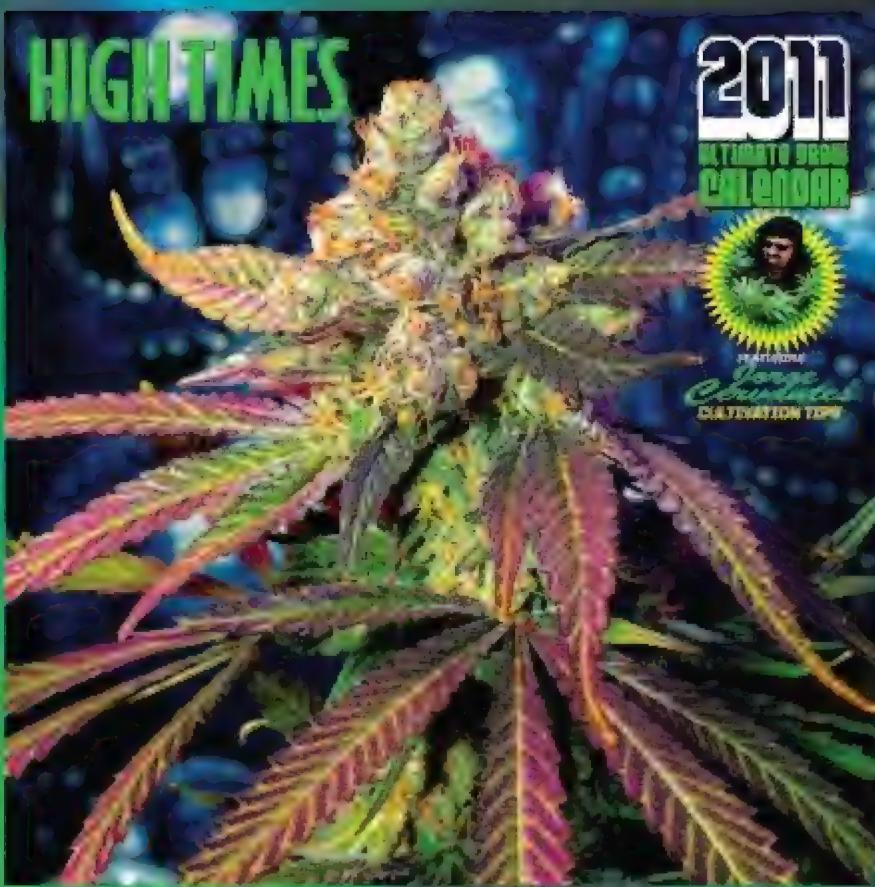
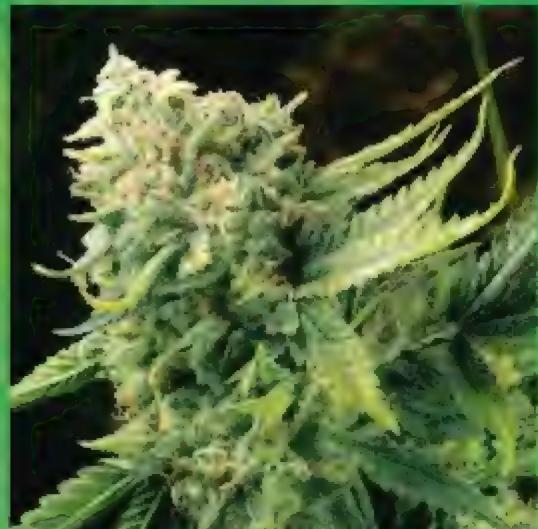


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# 2011

## ULTIMATE GROW CALENDAR



### INDOOR GROW TIP

Take clones two to three weeks before harvest. Germinate seeds about two months before harvest so they're ready to move into the flowering room.

Open the windows and air the place out! Spring cleaning is upon us now, and it's a great time to remove any rubbish or signs of cultivation in and around your grow area.

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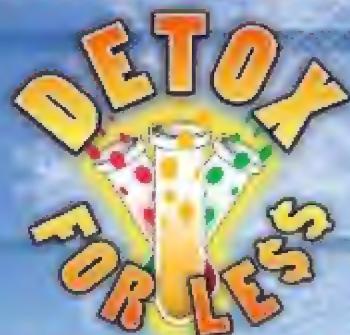
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Finally, it's that time of year again! Time to get those clones made and start them vegging. Time to head outside and find your secret spot, get your ground ready—and, of course, make sure no one else can find it. Here's the how-to on creating, maintaining and, most importantly, keeping an outdoor guerrilla grow. By Nico Escondido

An outdoor patch can be an oasis of salvation.

## How to create your own OUTDOOR GUERRILLA GROW

### Choosing Your Garden Plot

The first step in creating an outdoor guerrilla grow is choosing the right place for your garden patch. For starters, doing a guerrilla grow on public lands—especially in state and national parks—is *not* recommended. The “guerrilla” aspect of growing refers to security and the stealthy nature of the grow, not to acting like a baboon. Not only can an outdoor marijuana patch spoil beautiful places for others to enjoy, it can also ruin fragile ecosystems as well as lead to even harsher penalties if detected by law enforcement.

No matter where you decide to grow, there will always be some risk. If you can't grow safely on land that you own, the best course is to find a place that is not recreational or open to much human traffic. Forgotten wastelands, such as near abandoned railroad lines, can sometimes provide a surprisingly useful place for a small patch. In terms of thwarting marijuana thieves, it's better to choose a plot on uninhabited private lands instead of public lands that tend to host more human activity. Heavily wooded forest patches or overgrown fields adjacent to desolate or rural homesteads can provide better isolation and security for a garden plot.

The key to finding a suitable outdoor plot is to

visit possible sites at multiple times well before the grow season begins. The winter is an obvious time to seek one out, since there are clear sight-lines all around and vegetation is sparse, plus maneuverability is much easier.

However, visiting in the summer is equally important for the exact opposite reason: to see how overgrown your spot will be with lush summer vegetation. This is especially important when dealing with trees overhead that can severely cut into the sunlight your plants need. When looking to the sky to determine the amount of sunlight a plot will receive, remember that up to 50 percent of that light can be cut down in peak summer months by tree branches and leaves.

Two more essential points must be considered when choosing an outdoor spot: First, the plot must have good southern exposure (assuming you're growing in the northern hemisphere), and second, the plot must have ample drainage for rain runoff. Finding a small hillside plot can meet both of these criteria, as gravity will aid in preventing stagnant water from collecting and rotting your plants, while the higher elevation of a south-facing hillside will also provide good opportunity for maximum sunlight.

When checking to see if a plot offers good

drainage, it's very important to check out the soil content of the ground. No doubt a savvy grower will choose a plot that already has lush growth, as that land is obviously able to support vigorous plant life. Digging down a few inches into the earth will reveal the true quality of the medium. Soil composed solely of clay is not going to drain well; conversely, soil composed mainly of sand and silt won't properly support mature plants or their root structures. A fine, loamy balance is needed to sustain life sufficiently, so if you chose a poor piece of earth, soil amendment may be the only recourse.

Lastly, it's never a bad idea to place a garden plot near a small stream or creek, if possible. Of course, don't do this at the expense of security: Waterways with high foot traffic and recreational use are not advisable. But even small amounts of moving water can go a long way toward ensuring that your crop survives any summer droughts. Spring or stream water can slowly seep into the surrounding areas, providing that extra bit of moisture that plants need to see them through tough times. Additionally, if your plot is near water, it makes it that much easier to water your plants with a small can or bucket when you make a maintenance visit.

## Prepping the Plot

Preparing your grow site is a necessary step toward having a successful outdoor crop. The timing for site preparation is crucial, as growers need to begin sometime after the ground thaws but before the spring rains come.

The first step is clearing away all overgrowth, weeds and fallen debris in the area. This may also include some intense uprooting of smaller shrubs and churning the soil over to make sure that no leftover root blockages exist within the ground.

When it comes to soil, growers have two options: They can either use the existing soil, which entails tilling the plot extensively and dislodging rocks, sticks and roots, or they can amend (or entirely replace, if need be) the soil with their own mix of soil base and additives.

While the latter option is more attractive for growing quality cannabis, it can also be the riskier option. Trekking large bales of loam, soilless mix, perlite, humus, etc., can be very noticeable to others (not to mention exhausting). Entirely replacing the soil of a plot requires digging up a good 12 inches of the existing dirt and replacing it with a loamier, viable soil medium. This type of undertaking can take days to accomplish, depending on the size and location of your plot, but the upside is that once it's done properly, you'll have a solid site to grow on for several years to come with only minor upkeep along the way. Still, a few hours of tilling the existing soil will usually do the trick for growers who want to keep it simple and use the existing land.

Aside from soil quality, other factors to consider when prepping your plot are pest protection and security. It's usually a good idea to surround your plot with chicken wire or some sort of mesh to keep out small animals and rodents. Rolls of wire or mesh fencing are generally easy to transport and install. Use small trees and large shrubs to define the perimeter of your plot, then affix the fencing to the trunks using a staple gun or small tack nails that the wire can be easily bent over. It's also advisable to leave an extra length of fencing at the bottom along the ground; this should be buried a few inches below the surface to help keep burrowing pests from getting into your garden.

Only use earth-toned fencing (gray, brown, etc.) that blends in with the surroundings, and make an easy, gated access point for you to enter and leave from. Once your perimeter is in place, camouflage it by weaving sticks, branches, and cut weeds or grass throughout the fencing. Make sure it's in no way visible to a random passerby at a distance of more than 15 feet (anyone closer than that will likely smell your plants anyway).



This remote location offers southern exposure and loads of secure space.



Always look up for good sunlight conditions when scouting plots!

## Growing in Trees

It may sound funny, but for smaller (and sometimes even fairly large) outdoor grow operations, growing trees *in trees* can be a successful method for getting some decent head stash. Humans have been growing plants in trees for centuries, and for several good reasons. The smartest reason is to prevent the bigger trees from stealing your plants' valuable sunlight: Why not raise them up to the level of the forest canopy and get them better light instead?

The next reason is security: If you don't want anyone to find your plants, what better way to hide them than to stash them high above the ground, where humans don't generally wander? Aside from human traffic, protection from



These Bush Buckets are excellent tools for growing plants in trees.

ground-dwelling animals is also a huge plus, especially if your plants are still relatively young and small when they're brought outdoors.

Of course, there are some disadvantages to this technique as

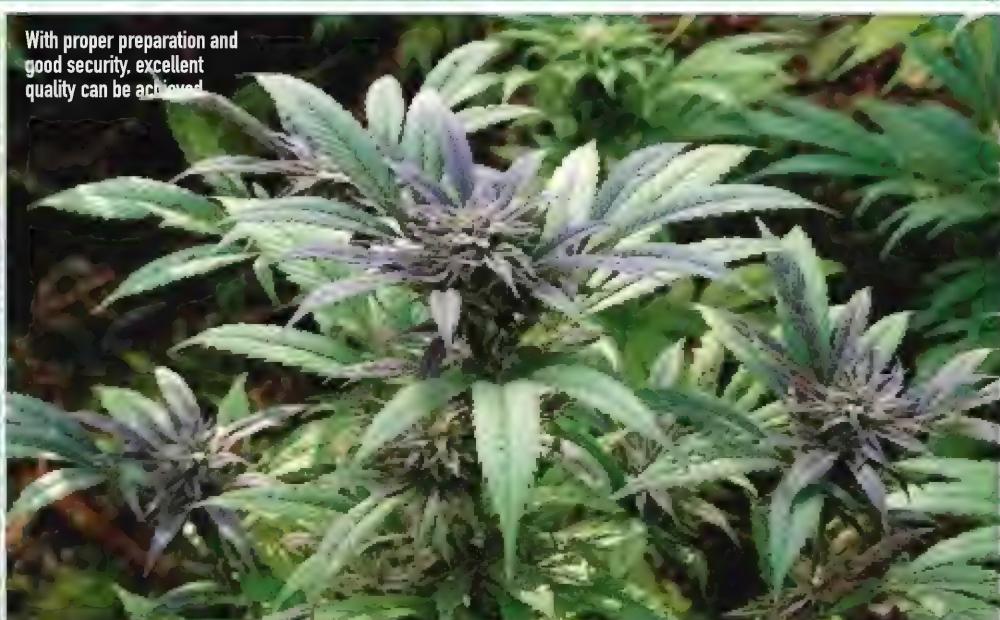
well, such as accessing your plants for routine maintenance. And the question of how exactly one houses plants in trees is a tricky one. Today, this problem is easier to solve, as some companies now

manufacture tree pots. These ingenious devices simply place a plant container (with holes in the bottom) inside a reservoir bucket. Rainwater drains through the container and fills the reservoir below. Ropes run between the container and reservoir, acting as a wick system for roots to draw up the stored water as needed. These buckets generally come with camouflage bags that blend easily into the canopy.

Guerrilla growers sometimes affix several plant containers to a long board and then attach these boards high up in the treetops. Once strongly secured and stabilized, the buckets are filled with a light soil medium, and young adult plants can be transplanted into them for the warmer grow seasons.



Here, undergrowth is starting to ensnare plants; luckily, they are big enough to outgrow dense vegetation.



With proper preparation and good security, excellent quality can be achieved.

## Garden Security

Garden security is probably the most important aspect of a guerrilla grow. As mentioned earlier, guerrilla growing usually means that you're not growing on your own property. While this means less legal risk for you (unless you're actually caught at the site), it does pose a more significant threat from rippers or thieves.

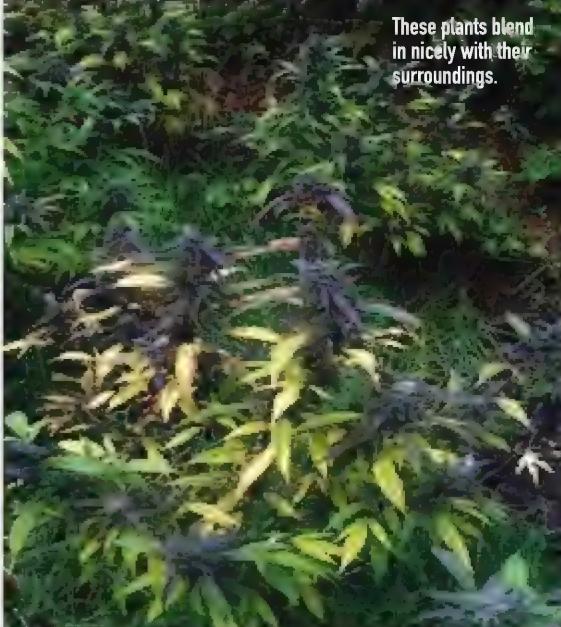
Camouflage goes a long way in aiding security, and it's usually a good idea (both for security and cultivation) to use a mulching agent that will help conceal any unusual colors that may have been added to the ground by soil additives (for example, vermiculite or perlite). The mulch will also help keep water locked in the ground during dry spells. Coco coir makes an excellent choice as a mulching agent and can help ensure that there are no bright colors to be seen from a distance or above. Keep in mind that hunters and hikers may pass through even the remotest areas.

Mixing in other plants around the perimeter of your garden will provide additional cover. Planting a few native bushes or small trees in and around your garden the same day that you

transplant your cannabis plants is an excellent idea to consider. This will greatly increase security and help your patch blend into its natural surroundings. You can always move some smaller shrubs from nearby and transplant them to your plot as camouflage.

Another important consideration involves the tracks and pathways used for accessing your plot. It's best to regularly mix up your route when making visits. Also, be very careful never to leave a trail or path to your garden, especially matted-down grass or broken branches, no matter how tempting it might be to make your trek easier. Footprints can also be a telltale sign of a garden, so tying bags around your boots can go a long way toward making prints undetectable.

Also, keep in mind that parking cars near a grow site is a huge risk. It's often best to get dropped off by a trusted friend and have a set time to get picked up at another location. Make sure you never leave any trash, tools or identifying objects around your plot. Not only can these signify a grow, but they can also be used against you as evidence in a criminal complaint.



These plants blend in nicely with their surroundings.

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### Making Clones & Vegetating Plants

Although many outdoor guerrilla growers prefer to keep their grows just that—outdoors, concealed and far away from home—it's generally best if growers can find a way to give their plants a start indoors. Throwing down seed is certainly one way to grow outdoors, but this will usually severely limit a grower's chances for a successful harvest. Even putting out young seedlings or clones is a risky venture, since cold temperatures early in the year and the increase of pests and insects in warmer weather can devastate a garden before it ever has a chance to blossom.

The best way to prepare a crop for outdoor cultivation is to start your plants inside, either by taking cuttings and making clones, or by germinating seeds and raising seedlings. Either way, you should give your plants time to vegetate indoors until they're a decent size (12 to 18 inches is ideal), thus providing them the best chances for survival outdoors.

Thriving clones ready to be brought outdoors.



To do this, growers need to start their plants late in the winter months. Keeping a mother plant from the previous season—one that showed exceptional vigor and resistance (to disease, mold and pests) and also had nice yields—is a good idea. Growers can take a cutting from such a plant after harvest and re-vegetate it over the winter, or they can start

a new mother from seed just after harvest. The mother plant should be large enough by midwinter to supply a good number of cuttings to make clones and begin vegging for the upcoming spring season. If clones are not an option, be sure to leave ample time to raise seedlings from seed, since this can add a few extra weeks to the process.

Guerrilla growers ideally want to put their plants in the ground as soon as the spring weather breaks. Warmer temperatures and good rainfall usually come in early to mid-April, so you generally want your plants at a stage where they can handle the outdoors by late March. This means clones should be made not later than the first week of February, while seeds should be germinated a few weeks earlier. Anywhere from four to eight weeks of vegetative time is optimal for new plants before transplanting them outdoors. The height you want your plants to attain is also a consideration in how long you'll vegetate them before transplanting. The longer you keep new plants in the vegetative stage, the bigger they'll become outdoors, giving them better chances for survival and, of course, larger yields.

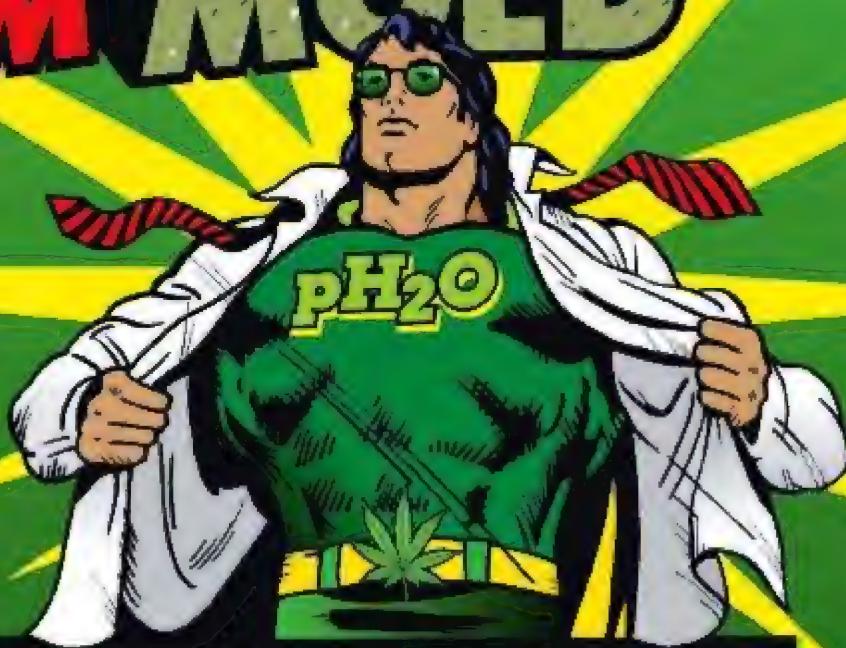


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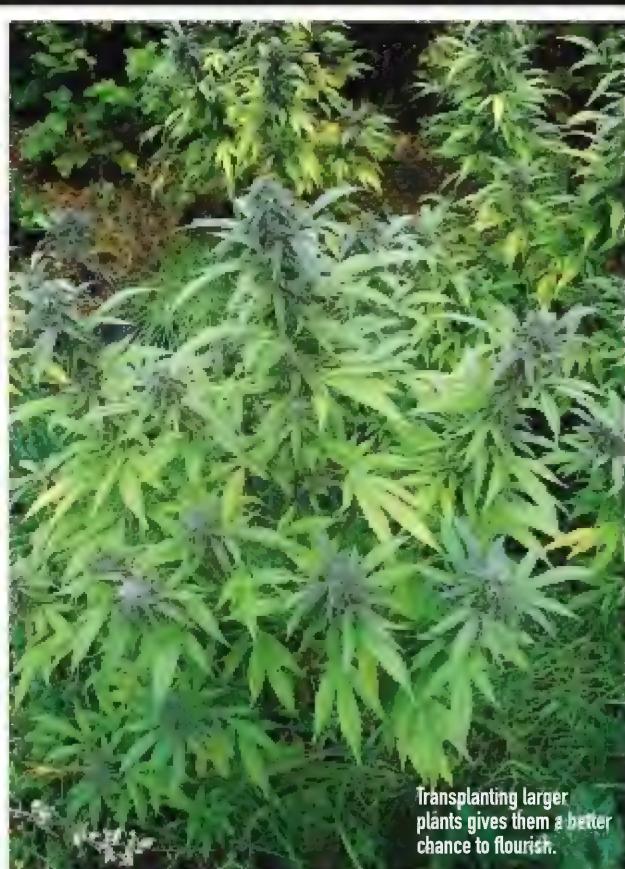
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This site was not well cleared and plants were transplanted into the ground a little too early in their development.



Closely packed plants will compete for light and water, so space them out where you can.

Transplanting larger plants gives them a better chance to flourish.



## Transplanting

The last phase of starting up a guerrilla grow is the transplant stage. This phase is particularly crucial because, aside from harvesting, this is the one stage that puts the grower at the greatest risk. Traveling to your plot with small to medium-sized plants is hazardous, and the few hours spent actually putting them in the ground is one of the most incriminating moments in this process, as it shows possession and ownership of the cannabis.

Savvy growers will have their plot well prepped ahead of their transplant date. By this point, your grow medium should be ready, holes should be dug for the plants, and extra water, soil additives and nutrients should already be at the site. A stealthy grower wants to arrive at the plot carrying just the plants and then get them in the ground as quickly as possible.

Using pots, fabric bags or air-pots (either with removable sides and bottoms or ones that can be

easily cut away) is best for outdoor transplanting. Attempting to carefully remove entire plants and their root structures from packed pots can be a difficult and time-consuming task.

Growers will often do one transplant indoors, moving their young seedlings or clones into larger containers for vegetating. These containers need to be easily removable or entirely plantable outdoors. Plantable containers usually have removable bottoms, are made from biodegradable material, or are extremely porous so that roots can grow out of them and into the earth.

It's often a good idea to make a small bed of gravel or vermiculite at the bottom of your plant holes to aid with drainage. Make sure to gently nestle the root-balls down into the plant sites so as not to damage the roots. Adding some wood chips or perlite to give the soil an airy quality is never a bad idea either. Once they're in place, pack the roots gently with extra loam or light soil, leveling out the surface under the plants. Gently

apply pressure to help pack and settle the plants into their holes.

After the plants are in the ground, step back and make sure they're upright and stable. If some plants have grown awkwardly or are leaning to one side, use long sticks to support or train them in the right direction. Try not to use bright, recognizable stakes or string to tie plants up, as this can be all too visible from afar.

Lastly, using some throw-down or time-release nutrients (in pellet form) can help to ensure a good start for your garden and make visits to your patch less frequent, which is good for security. Be sure to give each plant site an ample dose of water and, if possible, mix in a dose of vitamin B-1 before leaving, as this will aid the plants in dealing with transplant shock. Some growers go so far as to apply insecticides or pesticides around the perimeter of their garden patch as well, to ward off any animals or insects that might prey on the new plants. \*



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# DROP THE ATTITUDE

THE HIGH TIMES INTERVIEW WITH ADAM CAROLLA.

BY CARL SCHRECK | PHOTOS BY KATY WINN

The past two years have been good to Adam Carolla. After CBS Radio dropped his LA morning show in February 2009, the former co-host of *Lovelife* and *The Man Show* promptly moved his base of operations to a garage in Glendale, CA, and launched a free podcast that became an immediate Internet phenomenon. Liberated from FCC censors and radio producers eager to get to the weather, the podcast gave Carolla an unfettered venue for his lengthy, extemporaneous and often obscene rants about everything from the War on Drugs to peanut allergies to the sociological implications of drinking Sanka coffee.

Named the top audio podcast at the 2009 iTunes Rewind Awards, *The Adam Carolla Show* has helped the comedian build a nationwide grassroots network of fans. The show, Carolla's people say, is downloaded some 200,000 times daily, and his podcasting network was set to notch \$1 million in advertising for 2010—an impressive achievement in the embryonic business of podcasting.

Using his podcast as a marketing platform, Carolla—who claims to have read only two books in his entire life—also managed to debut at number 8 on *The New York Times* Best-Seller List last November with his book *In 50 Years We'll All Be Chicks*, a collection of comic riffs and musings on his Southern California childhood and early years as a carpenter and manual laborer drifting through a series of minimum-wage jobs.

Carolla is one of comedy's most unique observers of the national malaise. His portrait of America depicts a nation plagued by low-grade depression and insidious bureaucracy. An atheistic free-marketeer with some hawkish views on national security, his politics are hard to pigeonhole. He reserves equal disdain for the welfare state, political correctness, and the moral crusaders who would ban gays from getting married and prevent a guy from smoking a joint after a long day at work. It's a guiding philosophy that can be simply summed up as: "Do what makes sense."

**The America you describe in your podcast is one gradually descending into insanity and inanity. Where did we go wrong?**

We didn't tell certain folks to shut the fuck up and get out of the way. It's essentially halted progress—you can't build that bullet train to Vegas because there's some indigenous grasshopper that you're going to displace. Back in the old days, some baron would say: "Fuck that grasshopper, we're building this railroad." And it got built. And some grasshoppers got smashed, but we kind of forgot about it, and the good of the majority—being able to get from one place to another—just sort of outweighed the grasshopper. Now the grasshopper has a publicist, and they're going to get some Grasshopper Roots Foundation behind them, and some Indian's going to cry, and the thing's gonna get held up in court and it's never gonna happen. If one kid is allergic to peanuts, just build a school for kids who are allergic to peanuts—and their hypochondriac parents. The solution is not to remove peanuts from school, it's to remove the one

kid who's allergic to peanuts. It's the exact opposite of every good World War II movie, where the grenade drops into a foxhole and one guy dives on it and saves the whole platoon. Now everyone would argue over whose turn it is to dive on it, and then they'd all go up.

**Your vitriol is largely reserved for low-level public- and private-sector functionaries—airline representatives, traffic cops, meter maids, building-code inspectors. Aren't there more menacing fiends out there?**

There are always going to be your dictators of banana republics and your serial killers, but they're *supposed* to be dicks. Building inspectors aren't supposed to have an attitude. Guys who work behind the counter at that piece of shit called United Airlines, they're not supposed to have attitude. Cops aren't supposed to have attitude—not when they're dealing with noncriminals. Of course Mussolini had an attitude—the guy was a dictator! And Saddam Hussein is supposed to have an atti-

tude. But the chick over at Alaska Airlines who's telling me that I gotta go back to the gate to get my bag because no one told me there was a gate check—she should drop her fucking attitude. She's a peon. And so is the United cunt. And so is the meter maid. You guys drop your attitude! When you can get an army behind you—and an arsenal behind you, and some mustard gas, and a wacky beret—by all means.

You know, Kim Jong-Il can go out and shoot 18 holes of golf and just tell his caddy: "Uh, I got a 19 for the day." And the caddy has no fucking choice but to write it down. But you people are making \$28,000 a year and have a fucking GED. And you should drop your fucking attitude.

**Is the War on Drugs part of our national madness?** Yeah. I mean, it's ridiculous. ABC News does some fucking experiment every two years where they take some spent uranium and put it in a UPS box and then send it from Tikrit through the port of Los Angeles. And it ends up on an 18-wheeler going

ACE BROADCASTING

Carolla gets ready to go on the air with  
his popular, top-rated podcast.





Carolla's politics are hard to pigeonhole, but he has a special disdain for political correctness and moral crusaders.

## 'I found out about five years ago that we spend more money on pot eradication than we do on methamphetamine eradication, and I fucking almost threw up in my mouth.'

through downtown LA, because we don't have the money for detection equipment—yet we spend billions of dollars eradicating pot every year.

Obviously, pot is *not* an issue. Methamphetamine is an issue, but politicians never want to make a distinction between the two drugs—or *any* drugs. Just: "All drugs are drugs, they're all bad, they're all illegal, they should be eradicated, and our kids shouldn't be exposed to any of them." And we all know pot is really nothing and that there are many more drugs—including alcohol—that cause much more damage than pot. I found out about five years ago that we spend more money on pot eradication than we do on methamphetamine eradication, and I fucking almost threw up in my mouth.

I just heard of this news anchor in Washington, DC, who got fucked with because he had a pot plant in his backyard. It's total insanity—what kind of country are we living in? You wanna grow a pot plant, grow a fucking pot plant. The government has *much* bigger fish to fry than some news anchor and his fucking pot plant. Everybody who wants to smoke pot should have a pot plant, and the government should not be involved with it in any way, shape or form unless the person does something when they're intoxicated.

Pot shouldn't be treated differently than any other vice. I like to drink; I like to have a cocktail at night. And I like an Ambien and a cocktail, too, on rare occasion. But if I get in my car, now we got an issue. As long as I'm sitting at home in my den watching *Sports Center*, then we don't have an

issue. Maybe my liver has an issue, maybe my doctor has an issue, maybe my wife has an issue—but me and society, we don't have an issue.

**Alcohol seems to be your drug of choice. Do you unwind with marijuana, too?**

I like pot, [but] pot got too good; it got too powerful. All the stuff that makes it to the centerfold of your publication, the stuff with the purple hair, those weird sticky crystals and stuff on it—it's too goddamn good now.

And something happened to me where I needed a different kind of buzz. Because when I had nothing and I just drove a beat-up pickup truck and lived in a crappy apartment and literally didn't have a penny to my name, I wanted to get stoned just to, like, escape ... you know, just get baked and crank up a Boston album. And at a certain point, I had kids and a wife and a house and multiple mortgages—you know, a pretty goddamn big nut to cover every month. I knew I'd be on *Jimmy Kimmel Live* in a week, and the *Tonight* show after that, and *Dancing With the Stars*, and I realized that I would get stoned and just kind of think about it. Like, "Jesus Christ, you're going on *Dancing With the Stars*? Who are you? What are you *doing*?"

My life became too much and too surreal. Get really good and baked and realize you have to make \$100,000 a month to cover your nut and you'll not have a good high. So at a certain point, when I got some notoriety—and don't get me wrong, it's still fun to eat a pot brownie on occa-

sion—I started realizing that to drink the red wine and drift off into this weird kind of numb slumber and not think about the next show, the next appearance, the next obligation, or who's gonna pay for the goddamn private school for my twins, and just drift off and watch some *St. Elmo's Fire* on cable—I started enjoying that buzz more. It was sort of a "Who cares?" buzz versus an "I'm gonna get high and really think about all this shit" buzz.

**When did you first realize you had a talent for extemporaneous monologues?**

I'd been doing it for a long time, but I never thought of it as a *talent*.

**Did you do long riffs in front of friends in high school?**

My friends, or family, or teachers, counselors, whoever—they wouldn't permit me to go on long, rambling, even funny riffs. Someone would tell me to shut up or get back to work, or "Who cares?" or "Quiet down!" or "So what?"

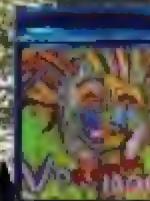
It's weird now, because I just got back from the House of Blues in Vegas, and there's 900 people sitting there who want to hear 90 minutes of my shit. I couldn't find anyone who'd sit down for 90 seconds of it in high school. Whatever one of my famous jags would be—pick your favorite one—I wouldn't get 45 seconds into it without someone saying, "I don't know! Who cares? Let's order!" Or my parents just sorta sitting there kinda numb, clearly not listening. Or my buddy

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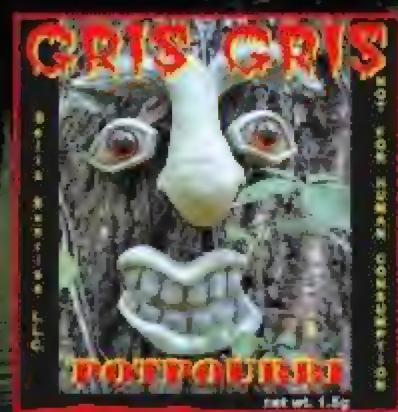
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Donny just going "Huh?" or "You're blocking the TV set."

Nobody ever said "Write that down" or "That's a good one!" or "You should do this for a living." It never came up. So this weird gift, in a world that looks at it as a liability, is no fucking gift at all.

**Is a podcast the ideal venue for your creativity, more so than radio or television?**

Yeah. TV is too fast—there's no room for anything long-form. Radio is fine, but you have a program director who's probably dumb. The only thing dumb people know is "Hurry up, hurry up!" So my life kind of went from "Shut up!" to "Hurry up!" And now, when you do this, you can do it super long-form.

**How did your manual-labor days prepare you for your current career?**

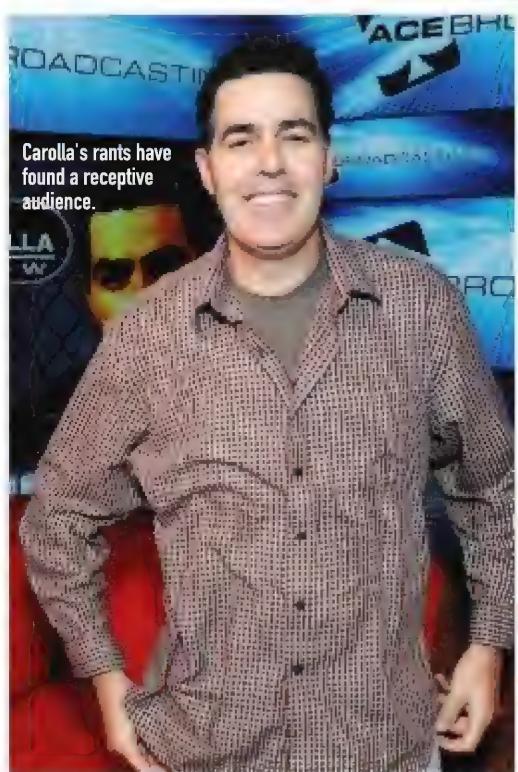
A lot of time left alone with my thoughts .... You wanna free up your mind? Turn off the TV, turn off the Wii, turn off the computer and do repetitive manual labor. Literally pick up a shovel, go out in your backyard and dig for nine hours without so much as a fucking radio or someone standing next to you. Just dig. Believe me, you'll get to thinking—no ear buds, no podcasts, no iTunes, no *Best of REO Speedwagon*. I would have jobs where they would drop me off in a parking lot, and there was a huge mound of dirt the size of a Winnebago on one side, and on the other side of the parking lot was a big roll-off dumpster with the doors swung open. There was a two-by-12-foot ramp that went up it, a flathead shovel and a wheelbarrow. I got dropped off, and they said, "Hey man, don't leave until you get this mountain of dirt into that roll-off dumpster." I started at 7 a.m., and by 5:30 p.m., I made my last scoop and went home—all for \$7 an hour. There are no flat-panel monitors, no checking your BlackBerry. You're just alone and got nothing to do but think.

It's sort of like being imprisoned with your mind—and a fucking shovel. What we're doing now is just sitting around staring at YouTube, staring at Funny or Die, staring at ESPN, staring at Wii. And we're basically just taking a tour through someone else's museum. And I don't know how much art you create when you're just constantly walking through someone else's museum.

I never wrote down a joke. But I was left alone with my thoughts—that's for goddamn sure.

**You were a lousy student with, you say, indifferent parents. When did you become so industrious?**

At a certain point, after being a nonachiever for so long in my life, I finally started to accomplish some goals, and it became sort of intoxicating. And then I started kinda wanting more. I spent the first 30 years just wasting my life. I was put on this earth to share stories, and tell jokes, and entertain people, and try to make them think, and come up with ideas, and design architecture, and work on cars. I was really just put here to do these things—I don't mean by God



Carolla's rants have found a receptive audience.

**'You wanna free up your mind? Turn off the TV, turn off the Wii, turn off the computer and go do repetitive manual labor... Believe me, you'll get to thinking.'**

or anything, but those are my callings. And I spent the first 30 years listening to teachers who told me I was dumb—and, you know, digging a ditch. I'm not Ernest Hemingway or fucking Mark Twain, but if you asked someone who knew Will Rogers what Will Rogers did for 15 years, and he said, "Oh, they gave him a shovel and he sat in the dirt and dug a hole," you'd say: "Well, that seems like a waste. Shouldn't he have just been sitting around and writing down sorta funny -isms about society?"

"Nah. He just sat alone, with ranchera music blaring in the background, digging a hole for \$8 an hour." That'd be kind of a waste, wouldn't it? Now, I'm not saying I'm Will Rogers, but that's my thing. I like ideas—I don't like digging holes. And so, eventually, it was like I was making up for lost time. It was like, "Holy shit! I've sat around rotting in classrooms, rotting in shitty houses, rotting on job sites—just sitting and fucking rotting." And then I realized, all of a sudden: "Whoa—I got stuff to talk about!" And so I started doubling down.

**Why do you pee in the sink?**

Multitask while shaving. I'm six-foot-two—and Dr. Drew told me that urine is sterile. \*

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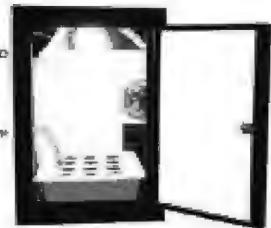


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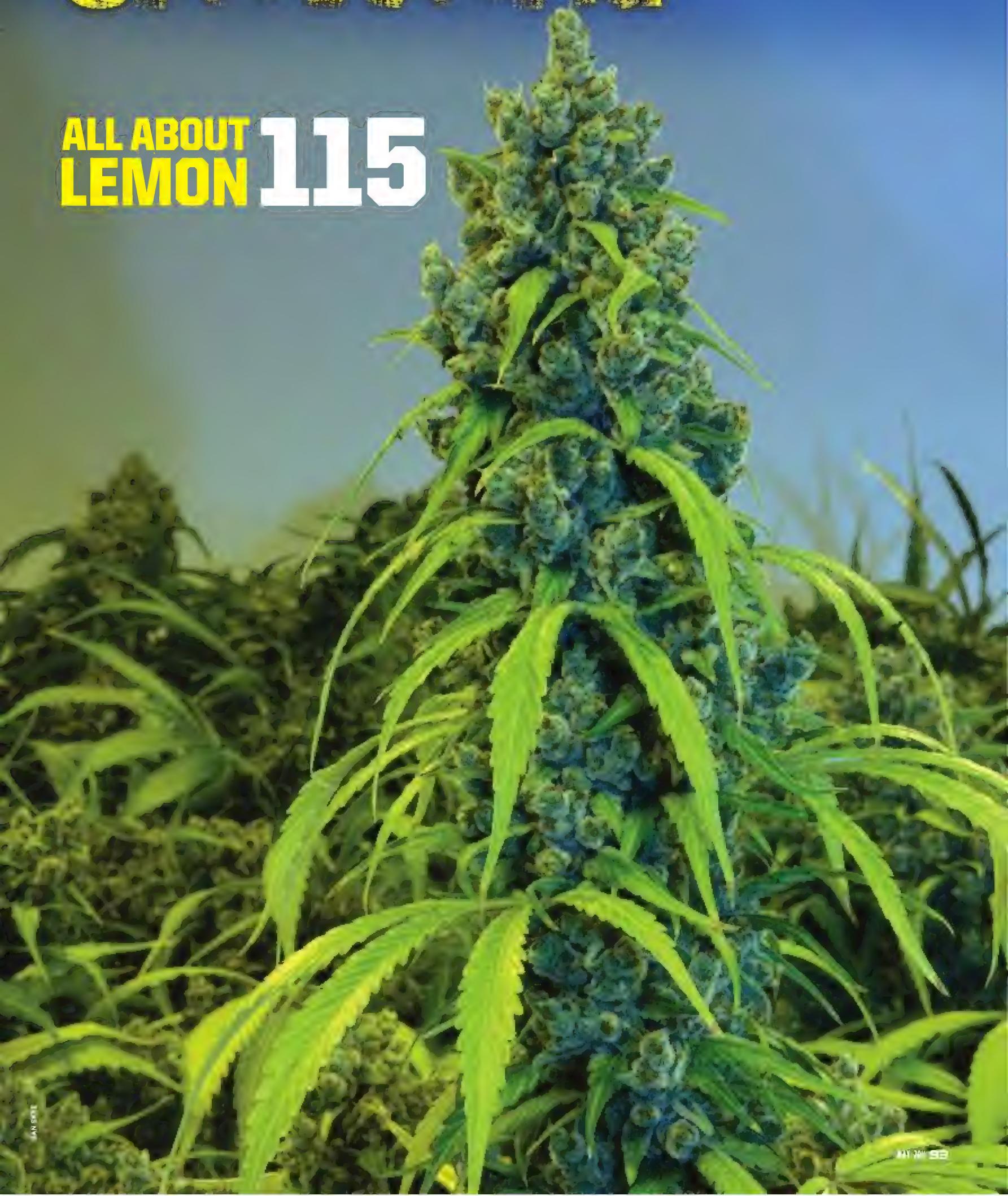
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## Pix of the Crop



### HASHVILLE SKYLINE

A collage of my skyscrapers.  
—Legal in Los Angeles



### HEADY HARVEST

I finally learned to grow outdoors this year and this is part of my yield! I donated some to a poor medical marijuana patient and I'm smoking the rest with family and friends. I love free pot! Thanks HIGH TIMES!



### CHRONIC CONNIE

Hello, HT! Here's an LA Confidential bud shot that will hopefully make the mag.  
—BrainSellz

**Pix of the Crop** is reader-driven. Your submissions make all the stoners of the world dream of kind nugs. Send pictures (no Polaroids), tips, questions and stories to: HIGH TIMES, 419 Park Avenue South, 16th floor, New York, NY 10016. Digital photos can be e-mailed to [mailbag@hightimes.com](mailto:mailbag@hightimes.com) and must be hi-res for publication. Remember, by submitting photograph(s) you thereby grant permission to the publisher to reprint photograph(s) in HIGH TIMES, as well as in any other Trans-High Corp. publication.

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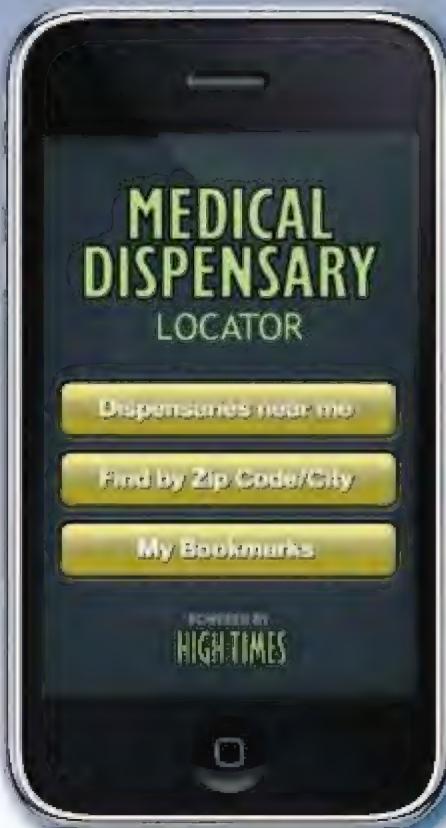
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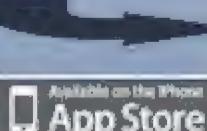


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# THE GOLDEN STATE OF DRUG REFORM

**Student government and marijuana activism go hand in hand.**

Last spring, I took over San Jose State's chapter of Students for Sensible Drug Policy. I had wanted to found a chapter of NORML, until I saw an SSDP flier and attended one of their meetings. Ever since that first meeting, I had a feeling about this group—that they could get the results I'd been looking for. I was quickly immersed in the world of drug-policy reform, attending a summer conference in DC and becoming a regional director for the Proposition 19 campaign. I was already well-versed on the issue, having written numerous papers on marijuana and hemp legalization for school. I'd also appeared on CNN briefly to discuss legalization as a solution to the Drug War, but Prop. 19 was something new.

So what was Prop. 19, and what did it do for California? Superficially, it was an initiative to legalize marijuana in the state—but more than that, it was a vehicle for producing the most open and honest dialogues about marijuana I've ever seen (and having grown up in the Bay Area, that's saying something). It didn't end with marijuana, though: These conversations acted as a gateway to discussions of other illicit drugs and their potential medical uses, such as MDMA, which has been shown to be highly effective for treating post-traumatic stress disorder. Ultimately, Prop. 19 forced at least some government officials to begin telling the truth after generations of propaganda. This was most evident in California with Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's signing of SB 1449,



**'We're not going anywhere. SSDP is here to stay, along with our allies and friends.'**

which decriminalized the possession of small amounts of pot.

You might be wondering how are things going in California these days. Not so hot. Though personal recreational use has been decriminalized, the DEA and local police have made patients' lives a living hell. In the San Jose area, dispensaries have been hit with a double whammy of armed robberies and armed police raids. And if that weren't enough, voters also passed a local marijuana tax, which would have fallen mostly on recreational users if Prop. 19 had passed—but now the tax is solely on medical users.

Right now, it's getting harder to become a patient in the San Jose area, but our local Americans for Safe Access and others have been waging a valiant fight. We will keep on fighting to 2012, when we'll hopefully see another attempt—this time a successful one—to legalize marijuana for everyone.

I remember distinctly, when I first joined the Prop. 19 campaign as a regional director, that some people openly mocked us. We were so far out there that we didn't have a hope of passing anything. But after we got 46.5 percent of the vote, no one was laughing anymore. And make no mistake: We're not going anywhere. SSDP is here to stay, along with our allies and friends, training a new generation of anti-Drug War warriors. We are young, we are loud, and we are armed with the truth—a dangerous combination.

—Mitchell Colbert, San Jose State SSDP President

## THE CONFERENCE OF ORANGE COUNTY

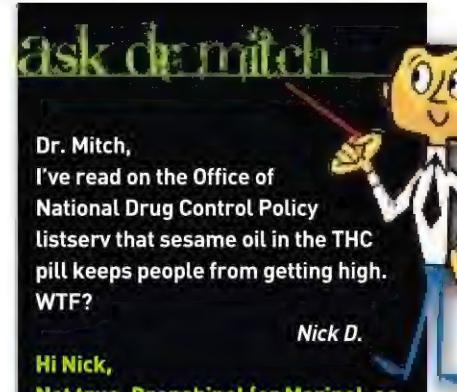
**Kandice Hawes fights the law in Southern California, and she's winning.**

An estimated 100 million American adults use cannabis sometime during the course of their life, and an estimated 14.6 million use it monthly—but most get involved in cannabis activism only after they become one of the 850,000 adults arrested for marijuana every year. Our newest Freedom Fighter, Kandice Hawes, certainly fits that bill, but she would love for you to join the cause without getting arrested and suffering the consequences that compelled her to become the president of Orange County NORML and one of the most visible legalization activists in California.

In 2003, while attending Fullerton College, Kandice went to Las Vegas with friends. Following a routine traffic stop, she was arrested for possession of a small baggie of pot that cops found in her purse, which meant the end of her federal student aid. She was forced out of school; undeterred, she flew herself to Washington, DC, to lobby Congress for a change in the Higher Education Act's ban on federal loans and grants to students busted for cannabis. And another effective activist was born!

Still in her twenties, Kandice exemplifies the strong female leadership ever present in the NORML Women's Alliance and in local chapters throughout America. Since founding Orange County NORML, she has lobbied her state and local officials, mounted activist events, such as the chapter's annual protest at the US Open of Surfing and their hugely successful Know Your Rights Expo in Anaheim, CA. Along the way, Kandice has been highlighted in many local media reports, including a recent feature in the *Orange County Register*. She and her crew can be found tabling at most of the big California cannabis festivals; you can also find them on the Web at [orangecountynorml.org](http://orangecountynorml.org).—Russ Belville

Russ Belville hosts NORML's daily audio podcast at [stash.norml.org](http://stash.norml.org).



**Dr. Mitch,**  
I've read on the Office of National Drug Control Policy listserv that sesame oil in the THC pill keeps people from getting high. WTF?

Nick D.

**Hi Nick,**  
**Not true. Dronabinol (or Marinol, as it's better known) changes mood in ways that are comparable to the THC in marijuana, but most strains of the plant have other cannabinoids that make the experience more pleasant. Although a chemical or two can block the brain's cannabinoid receptors to prevent THC from creating effects, sesame oil sure isn't one of them. Obviously, we can't believe everything we read on listservs, even (or especially) if they're government-sponsored.**

**Do any of the prevention programs in schools actually help keep kids off drugs?**

Ganja Mom

**Hi Ganja Mom,**  
**Although I make fun of the DARE program a lot, other school programs are effective. The best ones have someone who is not one of the teachers at school deliver at least 15 sessions in an interactive style to students over age 14. A couple of lectures given by some overworked grade-school teacher to kids who are too young just won't do the trick.**

**I've read in your book about studies in which folks live in the lab for three months and get high every day. How much could I get paid for something like that?**

Lincoln

**Hi Lincoln,**  
**Residential experiments that last over 90 days are a thing of the past; I doubt there will be much funding for those studies anytime soon. At least one lab still has participants living onsite for a couple of weeks—it's at New York State Psychiatric. Their participants earn about \$60 per day. I visited recently, and it's not exactly a four-star hotel.**

**Dr. Mitch Earleywine, Ph.D., is an associate professor of psychology at SUNY Albany. He is the author of *Understanding Marijuana and The Parents' Guide to Marijuana*. Got a question for Dr. Mitch? Email him at [420research@gmail.com](mailto:420research@gmail.com).**



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medicines

## SATIVA SALMON

The dish that will have THC molecules swimming up your bloodstream. By Chef Mike

In the past, I've never had the luxury of growing my own, which allows you to (among other things) control the amount of flavor or bouquet in the plant material you plan to cook with. But that's all changed since I acquired the Bloombox from BC Northern Lights.

Now I grow for the flavor. I figure that no matter how I extract the essential oil from the plant material, I'm getting a pure form of what I put in. Therefore, I only feed my plants organic nutrients and good water, and I've created several dishes with extreme potency and flavor using them.

I've found Diabolic Funxta's Citrus Lemon good for cooking, using its sativa-dominant flower to make a clean extraction. Personally, I like to use pure essential oil; if you know someone with a good hash-maker (like me), give him your material and have him make you some Phoenix Tears (a.k.a. hash oil). You can also use bubble hash, but it won't melt as well.

This month's recipe is very simple, and you can add your extraction to the sauce in two different ways. We'll be using Hoisin sauce for this dish. Hoisin is a traditional Asian sauce that will hide the bitterness of the cannabis. It's made from a combination of fermented soy, garlic, vinegar, and usually chilies and sweetener. Hoisin is dark in color and thick in consistency, with a very strong, salty and slightly sweet flavor.

We start by melting our cannabis extract into a fat medium. Since I'm serving it with grilled salmon, I like butter for this dish. Just melt a few tablespoons of butter on the stove (the microwave will work too) and slowly add about a gram of extract into the melted butter, mixing vigorously. (It helps if your mixing utensil is warm as well—I like to boil some water and hold my whisk in it until it's hot, then pat it dry and whisk away.) When the oil is still warm and emulsified in the butter, you can add it to about 1 cup of Hoisin sauce in a thick stockpot. Slowly bring it up to a temperature of 135°F degrees (and no higher), then set aside and keep warm until you need it. If you only have cannabis butter, just melt a few tablespoons and finish the recipe from this stage.

I want to stress that all forms of extract—be they butter, oil, hash or even water—are just that: extractions. In other words, it's a pure distillation, the properties of which are directly related to what you feed your plants and how you treat them. As with people, you get back what you put in.

You can watch me make this dish in real time on [www.cannabisplanet.tv](http://www.cannabisplanet.tv). \*



## HOISIN-GLAZED SALMON with asparagus and white rice

4 wild sockeye salmon fillets, skin cleaned and pin bones removed  
1 bunch fresh asparagus, 2 or 3 spears for each plate  
1 cup cooked white rice (jasmine preferred)  
Cannabutter (just a few tablespoons for extra potency)  
Unsalted butter (as needed)  
1 gram cannabis-extract oil, Diabolic Funxta's Citrus Lemon strain (from grower Eddie Funxta at Don't Panic Organix)  
1 cup Hoisin sauce  
3 garlic cloves, sliced (add to taste)  
Olive oil (as needed)

First, pat the salmon dry with some paper towels. You'll be searing the salmon at very high heat, so any excess liquid will cause the pan to splatter grease, and we really don't want that.

As the salmon is drying off, get the asparagus cut and washed, as well as some white rice prepared according to the package directions. Next, sauté the asparagus in a little garlic, olive oil and cannabutter. It's a simple preparation, because the true star of this dish is the fish! Be sure to season the salmon to your taste, since we are building flavors to make our meal delicious.

Once the salmon is dry and seasoned, sear the fish and sauté the asparagus. Finish the asparagus with cannabutter and set aside.

Next, flip the salmon fillets and place them in the oven. They should be cooked at about 375°F for four to five minutes. While the fish is cooking, begin plating: Pack the white rice down into a round mold, then place it inverted onto a plate and flip it to release the rice. I added some cannabis oil to my Hoisin sauce, so I'm going to paint the bottom of the plate with my medicated sauce, then add rice to the center of the dish. Place the asparagus to the left side of the rice.

Next, take the fish out of the oven and let it rest, then drain off any excess oil and add the sliced garlic. Sauté it until golden brown, pull off heat and add the Hoisin sauce. Finally, place the salmon across the plate and drizzle the sauce over them! Stones 4.

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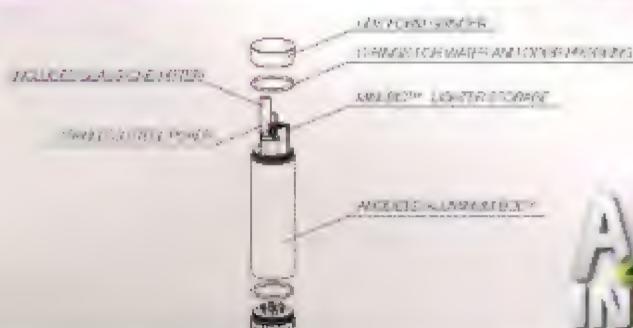
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## **700 AND COUNTING**

**NORML's Daily Audio Stash, an anecdote to the 'lamestream' media's pot reporting.**

The NORML Daily Audio Stash was created by activist Chris Goldstein and has been available for download from our website and iTunes since 2006. I took over the programming in 2008 and transformed it from a 60-minute recorded podcast into a 120-minute live daily talk-radio show. The new format starts weekdays at 1 p.m. Pacific time with the pre-recorded Daily Audio Stash and wraps up with "Toker Talk Radio," our live call-in segment. Listeners can watch it live via webcam and chat with hundreds of other cannabis consumers nationwide.

As outreach coordinator for NORML, I handle hosting and interview duties for *The NORML Show Live*, and I'm proud to say we just broadcast our 700th edition. But I couldn't have done it without the hard work of Karri Gallagher, Jon Hamm (no, not the *Mad Men* guy) and other dedicated volunteers.

"Cannabis Karri" is our news editor and the voice of our *Weekly News* podcasts. We stream from Portland, OR, but Karri works remotely via Skype from Astoria, where she's active in the North Coast Oregon NORML chapter. Karri also works as one of our music editors on *Daily Toker Tunes* (at 20 after the hour—4:20 on the East Coast!), coordinating a volunteer crew of DJs from around the world. Cannabis Cure from the UK spins on "Electric Tuesday" (electronic, disco, house, experimental). Grateful Dread Radio in New Jersey serves up "Irie Wednesday" (reggae, Latin, calypso, world). John Doe Radio in Denver gets us our "Groovin' Thursday" fix (rap, hip-hop, funk, soul). And Urb Thrasher in Portland delivers the "Rockin' Friday" jams (rock, jamband, metal and punk).

Meanwhile, "Ganja Jon" serves as board operator and co-host of the show. We met Jon while interviewing him about his struggle to secure a kidney transplant as a medical-marijuana patient. Our listeners followed him through his loss of an eye, his transplant and then his successful recovery. No longer living in fear of being booted off a transplant list, Jon now works to save other med-pot patients from such discrimination.

Our regular interviews give listeners a wide-ranging perspective on marijuana in America. Every Monday we speak with activists from NORML and other organizations fighting for cannabis-law reform. Tuesdays feature our correspondent Eric Brenner's "California Marijuana Report." On Wednesdays we take live questions on cannabis science, history and culture with Dr. Mitch Earleywine. On Thursdays we alternate between speakers from Law Enforcement Against Prohibition and our "Southern California Scene" with comedian Tere Joyce. And we end the week Friday with our "HIGH TIMES Preview" featuring HT West Coast editor David Bienenstock or "Cultivator's Corner" with HT's senior cultivation editor, Danny Danko.—Russ Belville

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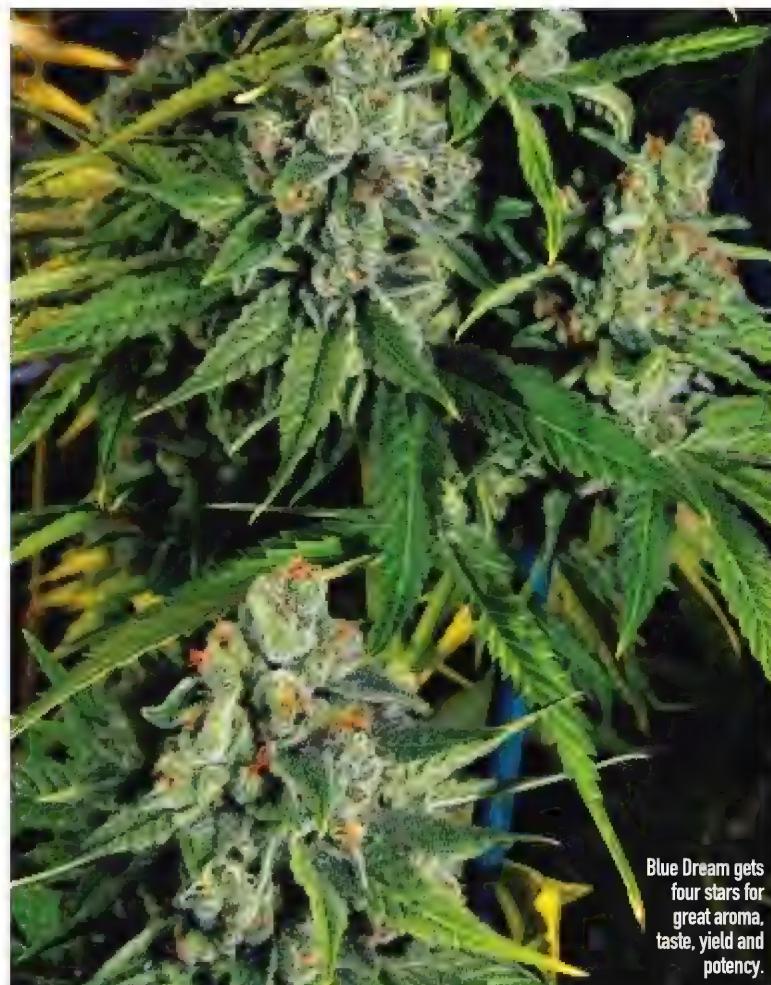
Welcome to our mini-section devoted wholly to medicinal strains, news, uses, developments, activism, politics ... everything and anything, really, that is medically related to marijuana. This is your *Cannabis Clinic!*

## Winds of Change in CO

Colorado, the only medical state of the 15 that actually amended its constitution to allow the medicinal use of cannabis, has been tightening its regulations on patient cards, doctor prescriptions and dispensary operations. A state that once had a backlog of thousands of patients trying to register is now trying to apply stricter rules for patients seeking medical cards. Additionally, late last year the state implemented new rules regarding the relationship between growers and dispensaries, mandating that dispensaries now partner with growers to supply 70 percent of their own inventory.

But, true to form, Colorado residents have responded to these tightening regulations with calls for full legalization. Earlier this winter, advocates in Denver began holding meetings designed to push past the medical front, stating that patients' rights would never be truly safe until cannabis was legalized for everyone. The concern is that patients will never be treated properly, either by law enforcement or state politicians, until this benign plant is completely legal.

While many people had fretted at the outset of the medical movement that this was all just a ruse, an avenue for making cannabis fully legal, it has since been proven that this miraculous plant does, in fact, have striking medical benefits and can be used by many to deal with serious illnesses. Still, the inability of conservative politicians, state governments and law-enforcement agencies to acknowledge the will of the people or embrace the very laws they're supposed to uphold has led to the beginning of this new movement for full legalization. Let it be known far and wide that a new political war is



Blue Dream gets four stars for great aroma, taste, yield and potency.

## Medicinal Strain of the Month: Blue Dream

A Golden State native and favorite, Blue Dream is quickly gaining popularity around the US. She is one of California's biggest cannabis exports during harvest season, and clones are widely traded on the more legitimate medical markets now as well.

The origins of Blue Dream are, as usual, controversial. It's accepted that she's a cross between the Blueberry strain and a Haze—most likely Strawberry Cough or some variation thereof, but no one knows for sure. There are quite a few male Hazes out there that could be a parent. However, before Blue Dream hit the scene, a very similar Blueberry Haze was also available, and the resemblances between the two are somewhat suspicious to more than a few cultivators.

More important than lineage is the fact that Blue Dream offers a very tasty option to patients looking for a balanced medicine that can treat a broad range of symptoms. Its cerebral high is calming, almost sedative, but patients remain awake and alert. Some Blue Dream samples have proven to aid in anxiety and attention-deficit disorders as well (perhaps due to her Haze/sativa heritage). Dispensaries in both California and Colorado are already stocked with the line, but Blue Dream will become a staple in all state dispensaries in the near future.

coming, and it was not declared arbitrarily by this side; rather, it's a necessary reaction to inept political leadership and the refusal of state officials to accept their responsibilities therein. And with 15 states already boasting medical-marijuana laws, it looks like we're going into this one with the scales a little more balanced than in the past. So keep on pushing, CO—there's plenty of support behind you.

## Sanity in San Diego?

Good old San Diego County in sunny SoCal is making waves in the medical world again, but this time not in an embarrassing way (relative to the last time we wrote about it, anyway). In a rare reversal of the usual San Diego politics, the county has finally done something right by its patients and the state: It is aiding the training of public defenders to be more successful in defending medical-marijuana patients.

This is especially good news in a county whose notorious sheriff's office raided a dispensary a few months back and then actually had officers pose as dispensary workers to elicit information from patients on grow operations. One would think that those living the good life down in Southern Cali would be just a bit more laid-back, but apparently they still live in fear of the plant.

Our guess is that patients aren't faring too well in court down there either, prompting the county to step up the training of its 60 public defenders (the free legal representation constitutionally mandated to any citizen who can't afford an attorney). The purpose of the training is to educate PJs in ways to better defend medical patients facing trial. While it's somewhat disturbing to think that any law-school graduate would require extra training from the state to better serve his or her clients, this is certainly a positive step forward in a county that has been disgraced by its continued foot-dragging on Proposition 215—which was passed in California 15 years ago.

## Did You Know?

The first cannabinoid ever discovered and isolated was cannabinol (CBN), by Thomas Wood and Robert Cahn. Although CBN is not the most pharmacologically useful compound in marijuana and is mostly an oxidation product of other cannabinoids, this discovery paved the way for others, including Raphael Mechoulam's discovery and isolation of THC in 1963. Look for our upcoming interview with Dr. Mechoulam in the next few months!

## Upcoming Release

In a shameless plug for my first DVD release, I'd like to announce an unprecedented cultivation video geared specifically to medical patients and beginner growers everywhere: *Nico Escondido's Grow Like a Pro* DVD. We're very excited about the release of this full-length educational tool, due out this spring. The DVD will include never-seen-before footage of America's best medical gardens and will cover indoor, outdoor and greenhouse cultivation techniques. If you're thinking about growing your own, this is the video resource you've been waiting for! Please check it out. \*

*Got medical questions? Pass 'em over to Nico at nico@hightimes.com.*

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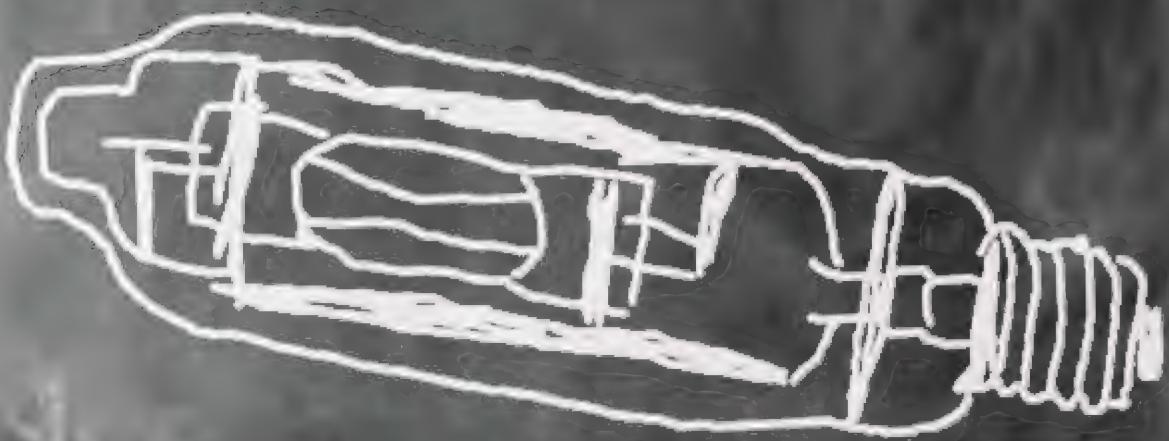
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# THE MYSTERY OF LEMON

The famous Irish playwright Oscar Wilde said, "The truth is rarely pure and never simple." The same applies to the legendary pot strain Lemon Skunk: It's rarely pure these days, and discovering its origins is by no means simple. **By Callum Francis**



He's widely known as the Lemon Man. For the past 12 years, he's plied his trade in relative anonymity, nurturing his prized possession: Lemon Skunk. For over 25 years, in Las Vegas growrooms, a closed network of growers shared cuttings and seeds of Lemon Skunk with only a few of their brethren.

The Lemon Man, now 29, was connected to the Lemon Skunk crew through family. He began growing in his mid-teens, but like many cultivators, he heard the siren song of Amsterdam, its cornucopia of genetics beckoning him. At the age of 17, he departed for Holland. Naturally, he arrived on Dutch shores with his American export.

Sorting out  
the origins of  
Lemon Skunk  
requires a pot  
detective.



HT cultivation editor Danny Danko calls Lemon Skunk "an easy-to-grow masterpiece of genetic achievement."

## THE MYSTERY OF LEMON

**'It becomes very convoluted because cuttings and seeds get distributed widely. They're manipulated, then passed on, and people lose track of where the strains come from.'—The Nose**

"It was 1999," he says. "I kind of kept going back and forth, networked around, met some really good people—wonderful mentors."

He began to share his cuttings, and breeders went to work with Lemon Skunk. By 2007, it had won first place in the High Life Cup for DNA Genetics. DNA's version of Lemon Skunk was a cross of the Lemon Man's female with a male Skunk #1, courtesy of Flying Dutchmen. In his just-released *HIGH TIMES Official Field Guide to Marijuana Strains*, HT senior cultivation editor Danny Danko cites Lemon Skunk as "a mostly sativa strain specifically selected for its zesty lemon characteristics," praising it as "an easy-to-grow masterpiece of genetic achievement."

One of Amsterdam's resident cannabis experts, known as "The Nose," describes its smoking characteristics: "It's fruity, very stony, with a nice taste. It's a very good smoke."

But this is where things get a little murky. As the Nose explains, "Amsterdam is an impatient place when it comes to genetics. People get hold of something nice; they start messing with it, seeing what they can come up with. It becomes very convoluted, because cuttings and seeds get distributed widely. They're manipulated, then passed on, and people lose track of where the strains come from."

The Lemon Man tells me that Lemon Skunk is actually an old-school Original Skunk #1 that originated in California. But over the course of 25 years of cultivation in Las Vegas, its fame as "Lemon Skunk" took hold, since the strain was renowned for imparting a hint of citrus along with its strong, mellow high. Its success in Amsterdam was deeply gratifying for the Lemon Man—especially when Arjan, the chief of the Green House coffeeshop and seed-company empire, crossed Lemon Skunk with Super Silver Haze to create Super Lemon Haze.

The Green House's creation, which has been measured at a whopping 23 percent THC, won the Cannabis Cup in both 2008 and 2009 and took second overall this past year. However, in a recent phone call, Arjan said that he can't place the Lemon Man, nor can he confirm that Super Lemon Haze's original genetics were acquired from him.

The Lemon Man now lives in Colorado and runs the Verde Wellness Center, a dispensary in downtown Denver, which he opened just over a year ago. It serves 500 patients and, at any given time, has some 10 to 20 strains available. The Lemon Man is a pleasant, low-key personality, consumed with meeting the ever-changing requirements of the state's burgeoning medical-marijuana scene,

which includes rigorous oversight of Verde's gardens. When I relate my conversation with Arjan to him, the Lemon Man shrugs his shoulders and hardly seems thrown off.

"That's Amsterdam," he explains. "I was responsible for bringing the genetics over, and a lot of people got a hold of them."

Still, Arjan's inability to place him causes the Lemon Man to scratch his head. He refers me to a YouTube video from the 2008 Cannabis Cup. It's an episode of the Italian television program *Le Iene*, a hip, satirical show that reports on politics and cultural trends; on it, Arjan is interviewed about Super Lemon Haze. Very clearly, he tells the interviewer that Lemon Skunk originally comes from Las Vegas.

"I don't know what to tell you, but I'm the Lemon Man, I'm from Vegas, and I brought Lemon Skunk to Amsterdam," the Lemon Man states matter-of-factly. "But I'm not going to argue with Arjan—he's an amazing individual who has done tremendous things for cannabis and the industry. Super Silver Haze always was a wonderful strain; it had really good genetics. Lemon Skunk was always a great strain, too, and they really made a wonderful combination. I think the Super Silver Haze, with that element of *sativa*, brought Super Lemon Haze to another level."

So we'll leave it to the cannabis historians to figure this one out. But the Lemon Skunk still grows strong, and the lucky medical patients of Colorado can sample the legend for themselves. In an industrial area of Denver, where the Verde

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# THE MYSTERY OF LEMON



The Lemon Man runs the Verde wellness Center in Denver, CO.

**'Every strain responds differently when it comes to feedings. People always ask, what cycle, what do you run your pH at—all that stuff—but it's all strain-specific.'—The Lemon Man**

gardens are situated, the Lemon Man has saved his current garden of Lemon Skunk until the last possible minute so that a photographer can capture it in all its blooming glory.

In his strain guide, Danny Danko describes Lemon Skunk's performance as follows: "It grows tall yet boasts a high calyx-to-leaf ratio, making for colas that are easy to trim and a joy to smoke. Sweet, fruity and covered with bright orange hairs, she also packs an impressive punch, with a soaring high that seems to have no ceiling. This citrus strain definitely has pedigree."

No argument here. The Lemon Skunk lives up to its hype, both in appearance and smokeability.

"I've done soil; I've done the aeroponics," the Lemon Man explains. "Right now, we're actually using ebb and flow—a flood-and-drain system. I really do like the soil a lot. I'm really a soil person, and we're going to have another room dedicated to soil. You're going to lose a little bit of your yield, but I like the hydros, too—even though they're very finicky and you have to keep a close eye on everything. This system is pretty simple. It definitely requires a lot of reservoir changes and that you be precise about nutrients."

"I like to keep things as organic as possible," the Lemon Man continues. "I'm really big into the worm castings and stuff like that, but with a lot of these systems, it's challenging to be 100 percent pure organic. Plants are like us—they really don't need a lot sometimes. Many people, when they begin gardening, they either overdo it with nutrients or overwater everything. We run each strain on a different reservoir so we can dial in their feeding needs. I think it's good to feed everything on a light dose. Every strain responds differently when it comes to feedings. People always ask: 'What cycle do you run, what do you run your pH at?'—all that stuff. But it's all strain-specific."

Lemon Skunk is certainly not alone in the Verde garden.

"I'm working with some really nice OG Kushes. They're not big yielders, but the quality is worth it—super-potent, super-nice. In fact, I've noticed that a lot of the Kushes seem to do really well in hydro systems. We're also working with J-1, an old Jack Herer cross, as well as an OG Sage cross that came out really nice. And our Master Kush has been very intriguing."

"But figuring out what's right for each strain is a trial-and-error thing," the Lemon Man concludes. "That's where the art of growing comes in." \*

Visit the Verde Wellness Center at 5101 East Colfax Avenue, Denver, CO 80220, or call 303-474-4489.

Sweet and fruity Lemon Skunk is known for growing tall and imparting a sweet, fruity taste.



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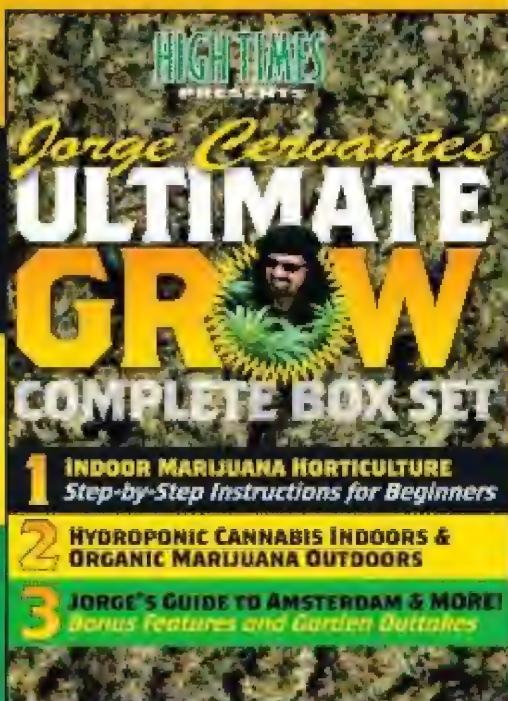
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## DEAR DANKO

ANSWERS BY DANNY DANKO

### DIGGING IN THE DIRT

Hey there, Danny. I see lots of info on hydro systems, but little on indoor growing with soil. Personally, I think soil would be easier because you don't have to worry so much about nutrients. But I'd love to know: What are the most important things to have for indoor soil growing?

Jeremy

Dear Jeremy,

Growing in soil—or more technically, a soilless mix, commonly made up of sphagnum peat moss with perlite (supplemented with organic additives and buffers such as compost, guano, greensand and lime)—proves more forgiving and, in my opinion, produces finer cannabis than chemical hydroponic methods.

Get some 3- to 5-gallon buckets, cut a couple of holes in the bottom, and fill them with store-bought mix. Add whichever amendments you prefer. This will allow you to use plain water for the first couple of weeks of growth. If you don't add amendments, you'll have to start the nutrient-feeding process sooner, adding only organic formulations of diluted grow and bloom fertilizers, respectively.

Another great product for growing in soil or soilless mix is a combination pH/moisture meter that you simply dip in the mix to determine acidity

or alkalinity, as well as the moisture level at the roots (which can vary greatly from the level at the surface of the mix).

Keep in mind that using a natural medium and nutrients can bring more pests into your garden, attracted by the inviting odors of guano and composted liquid fish and seaweed.

### AUSSIE AUSSIE AUSSIE, OI OI OI

I'm an Australian grower with a four-pot clay-ball setup. I have three plants growing (two are a Hash Plant variety and the other is a clone that I took from last year's outdoor plants), and at the moment, all is well—except that the clone, which was growing great, is now showing signs of both male flowers and seed pods forming!

Is it too late to take the other two plants out, or should I let them go and see what happens? They've almost finished the flowering cycle. Also, is it good to trim all the bits that aren't getting any light, like around the base and so forth?

Thanks for your time, and I'll let you know how they turned out!

J.

Dear J.,

Sounds to me like all is *not* well. If you're nearing the end of flowering, then any damage that could be done by your hermaphroditic plant has al-

Cannabis plants flourish outdoors in full sun.

ready been done to them all. You probably have a seeded crop, but it's not the end of the world. Harvest and dry as you normally would, and then either pick through the bud for seeds before smoking it or turn the whole lot into hash, thus sifting out the seeds and plant material to focus on the trichomes and the essential oils and resins that lie within.

And, yes, it's okay to trim the lower parts of the plant that don't get light, but doing so earlier in the grow cycle is certainly much more effective.

No worries and good on ya, mate!

### FEEDING LSD

Hello! I'm currently growing LSD from Barney's Farm. What kind of nutrients does this plant prefer from the vegetative stage right through flowering?

Don

Dear Don,

LSD is an *indica*-dominant strain (of Skunk #1 and Mazar parentage) named for its psychedelic high. Barney's Farm breeder Tony tells me that the plant is hardy and can thrive under a strong feeding regimen. A nutrient high in nitrogen is perfect for the vegetative stage, and one with more potassium and phosphorous is best for flowering. Using additives during weeks two through five of flowering would be helpful to boost bud growth at

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Dear Danny,



LED lighting continues to improve in quality and decrease in price.

this crucial time. I can't recommend a particular brand of nutes, but try to go organic and remember to always use less than the manufacturer recommends until you've dialed into your plants' needs. Good luck!

### LEDS VS. FLUORESCENTS

Hi, Danny! I want to start my first grow, but stealth is key. I'm going to build my own grow tent (3' x 3' x 4'), but my question is about lighting: I've narrowed it down to LED or fluorescent, but I'm still open to suggestions. The growing space is small, so heat will be an issue as well. What would you recommend for lighting? I'm hoping to spend around \$200 on it. Thanks!

Sarah

Dear Sarah,

At this point, I'd recommend that you go with fluorescent lighting over LEDs due to its affordability. The few LED lights that fall within your budget aren't nearly as effective as fluorescents for the same price—but be sure to get bulbs specific for plant growth. To be honest, if heat wasn't an issue and you could move the warm air away, I would go with a 250- or 400-watt high-intensity discharge (HID) light such

as high-pressure sodium (HPS) or metal halide (MH). LEDs may one day increase in spectrum and decrease in price, but for the time being, most are too pricey to offset the possible benefits.

### FEMINIZED SEEDS

I have a bunch of White Widow "feminized" seeds. I planted six of them so far, and the first three are flowering now. Out of these three, so far I have one male! Another was definitely female, but the buds were virtually nonexistent. They are almost a full month in and just now are they starting to show hairs at the node junctions. My results have all been unsatisfactory so far. Has anyone had good results with these seeds?

The Pope of Alaska

Dear Pope,

Your results are not typical of feminized seeds; however, I have heard this tale before. The fact that you popped a male bean from supposedly "feminized" seeds means you acquired them from a breeder who lacks expertise or quality control. You always must purchase seeds from a reputable breeder in order to ensure that you

have quality genetics. Feminized seeds are quite popular, especially in Europe, but one of the best ways to avoid hermaphroditic plants is to purchase regular mixed (male and female) seeds and discard the male plants. Choose the most vigorous female as a mother plant and take clones from her to grow out. This way, you can be positive that your plants won't make seeds and that they'll perform as expected.

#### LIGHTS OUT

I recently went through the indoor grower's worst nightmare—a power outage! During a snowstorm up here in NorCal, the power was out for a total of 40 hours with extremely cold temperatures. Within hours, the growroom temp was dropping into the 50s. After 24 hours of darkness and cold (49.6°F at its coldest in the growroom), I knew I had to move my plants to a place that was at least warmer, so I put them into a connected small one-bedroom that had one gas heater keeping it at 70°F. The plants had no light but the natural sunlight shining in through the windows during the day.

After realizing that gas heat dries out the air very quickly, I boiled water on the stove to keep the humidity up. The plants (of different ages, from seedling to mature) all showed signs of stress during this. After I spent almost two days freaking out at the thought of what was going to happen to my medical crop, the power finally came back on, and my plants are now under their lights again.

My question to you is this: What's the best thing to do with your plants when the power goes out for a long period of time? I know a generator is the first thing that came to mind, but given the circumstances, I couldn't get to one or afford one. When it comes to the survival of the crop, what's the best option when there's no electricity? Did I do the right thing keeping them warm? I recently saw a fellow grower's crop go hermy due to stress, and that's the last thing I want happening to mine. This is a huge problem for all indoor growers: Mother Nature can strike at any time and take down power lines, causing the indoor "sun" to go dark. When the power does come back on, what can a grower do to relieve the plants from some stress—a dose of nutes? Twenty-four hours of light? You guys always put me in the right direction when it comes to harvesting a healthy crop. If there's a good way to go about dealing with this situation, please let me know.

215MedicineMan

Dear MM,

The obvious solution is the one you've already mentioned—a generator. There are many different sizes available, and some are quite affordable. They run on diesel and can produce enough electricity to keep your bulbs burning during power outages. Keeping the plants warm is great, but without light, they will suffer and eventually freak out and die. If you live in an area prone to blackouts and you value the survival of your medical crop, I highly suggest that you invest in a generator to get you through these trying times.

Alas, if the problem has already happened, try to acclimate the plants to their regular light schedule as soon as you can and avoid messing with the lights or nutrients until they've been able to recover from their shock and stress.

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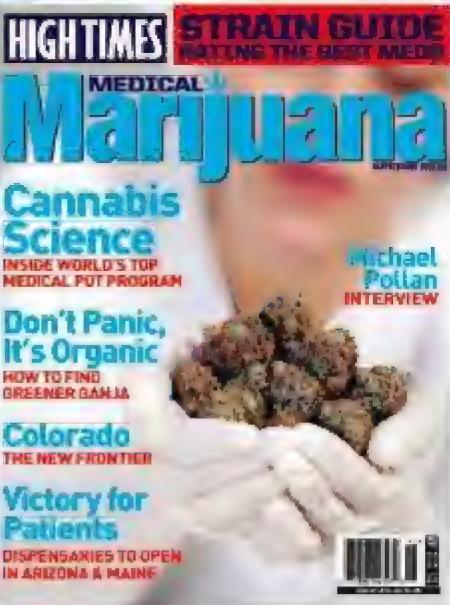
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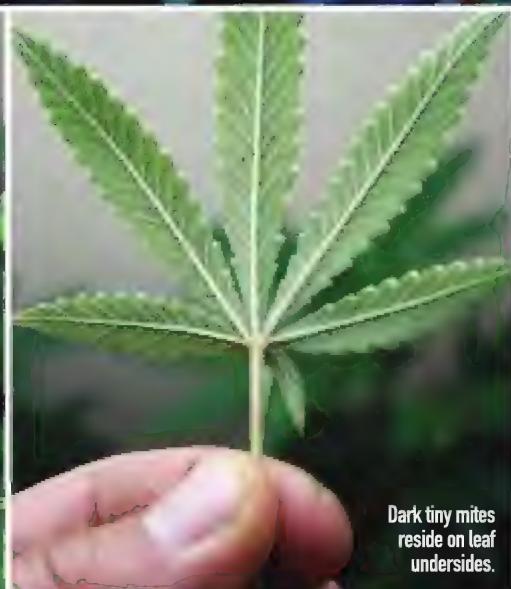
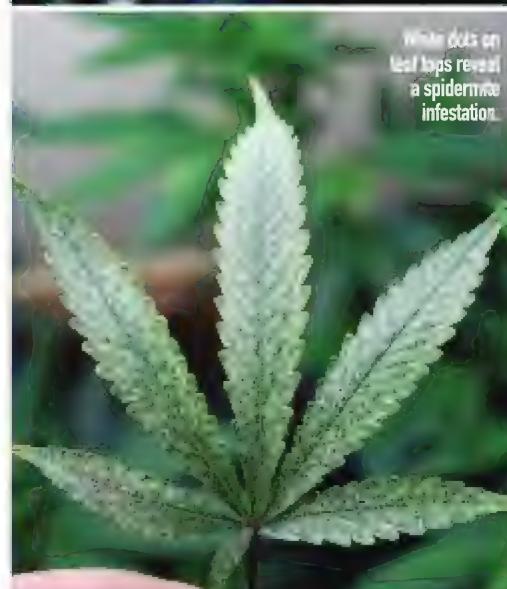
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### HOLES AND SEEDS

Hello, I have a couple questions ...

A couple of years back (in '08), HT had an article about a bucket method of growing widely used in Canada that utilizes 5-gallon buckets and a soil-less mix. The only thing I'm not sure of is whether holes should be drilled in the bottom of the buckets? I'd assume holes are important in order to be able to flush the medium.

Another question of mine has to do with seeds: I've noticed that some seeds are much larger than others. I've compared two of mine, with one being about four times the size of the average cannabis seed. Is the size of the seed a trait affected by male pollen, or is it inherited from the mother?

Catica

Dear Catica,  
You should definitely drill holes in the bottom of all your buckets and put trays underneath them as well to catch any overflow. Without holes, overwatering can end up drowning your roots, so it's important to let all excess water drain. It's also a good indication that you've used enough water to reach the bottom of the bucket and the many roots there. But don't let the plants sit in stagnant water—drain the trays underneath the buckets soon after watering.

As for your second question, cannabis seeds

vary in size from very tiny to quite plump. The size of the seeds is genetic and a result of the DNA from both the male and female sides of the family. Size isn't an indication of viability, although I've noticed that sativa seeds are typically smaller than indicas.

### LEAF SPOTS

I have splotchy patches of white on my fan leaves. They start near where the leaf meets the stem. It's not powdery mildew; it looks like the leaf actually turns white in certain spots. What causes this, and how can I prevent it?

Scooter

Dear Scooter,  
Sounds to me like your plants have an iron (Fe) deficiency or else a pH imbalance that's causing a lockout of iron. Lack of iron causes a depletion of chlorophyll and creates leaves that look spotted, with the white sections starting from the middle and working their way to the tips of the leaves.

Check your pH to ensure that your plants are within the proper levels to absorb iron (somewhere between 5.5 and 6.5). If not, adjust with pH up or down, then apply a nutrient formulation that contains potassium (most of these will say "bloom" or "flowering" on the label). Also, top-dress your medium with greensand or cotton-seed meal.

## GOT MITES?

I've got a possible way to control spider mites: try using a sacrificial plant! What if I load all of my plants but one straggler up with a systemic miticide? The remaining mites quickly infest the untreated plant, which I then get rid of. What do you think? I'll try anything at this point—but even with these crappy pests, growing is still the most rewarding hobby I ever took up.

Thanks for your efforts!

Mr. Illegal Smile

Dear MIS,

Your theory sounds interesting, but I'm not sure how well it would work in practice. Spider mites are notoriously tenacious, and it takes several varied approaches over time to truly rid your garden of them. I recommend neem-oil sprays and dips, organic miticides, and predator mites in order to attack the adults, adolescents and eggs.

## DYING YOUNG

I started germinating seeds, then put them in small starter cups, then transplanted into plastic beer cups, all in organic soil. I'm keeping them under four 4-foot fluorescent cool white lights 24/7, and I only start four to six plants at a time, so space is not a problem. They look great until they're 6 to 7 inches tall, and then the leaves start turning yellow. I keep them moist using just plain water. What's going on? Thanks!

Jewel

Dear Jewel,

Your problem is that your plants have depleted the nutrients present in your soil mix. At first, they do fine with only plain water because they're using up the food that's there, but eventually they'll need to be fertilized in order to continue healthy growth. Try adding plant food high in nitrogen (it will say that on the bottle and typically have the words "Grow" or "Vegetative" in the brand name and description). If the problem persists, you may be having a problem with pH, so get a test kit and make sure you're within the proper range (between 5.5 and 6.5).

## ONE BAD DUDE

I've just discovered a male plant among the females on my hydro table. How do I get it out without hurting the females' roots? Please help soon!

SB

Dear SB,

Cut the male plant off at the base where it meets the grow medium using a sharp blade or clippers and you should be able to kill it without damaging your females' roots at all. I just hope you can do this before the male has opened up his flowers and rained pollen all over your lusty ladies. In that case, you'll have a harvest full of seeds. But on the bright side, you'll probably never suffer from this problem again, since you'll likely kill males early and often after the trauma of a seeded crop. \*

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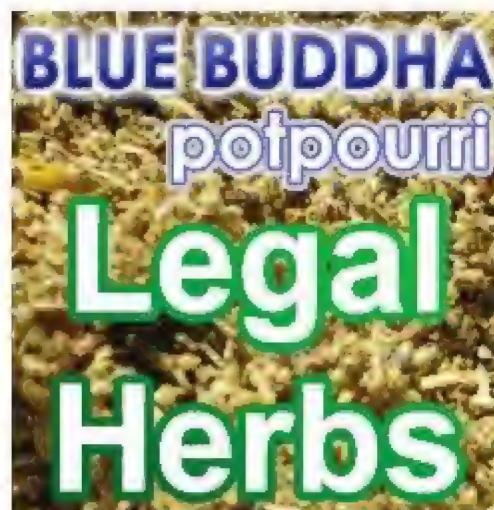
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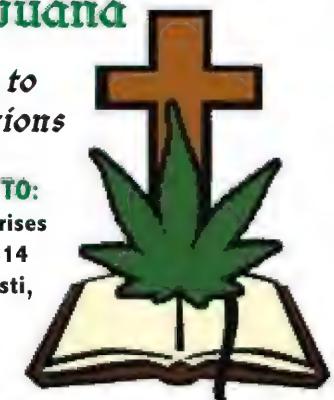
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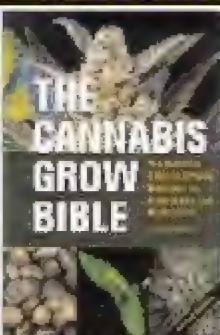
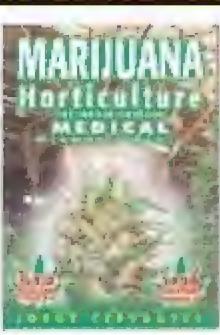
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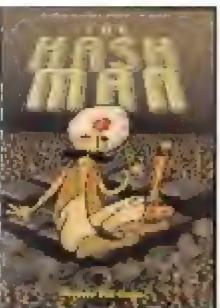
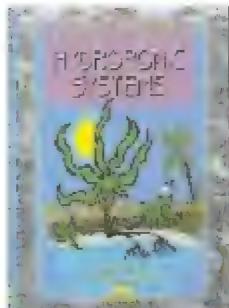
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## GARDENS OF ISRAEL

That's right, folks: They grow weed in Israel—and it's legal! One of the world's most militarized and security-driven nations has opened the doors for medical patients and growers. Check out cultivation editor Nico Escondido's adventures in the Holy Land. Large greenhouse growing, new medical laws and finding Jesus all come together in a HIGH TIMES exclusive.

## GROWIN' WITH GREG GREEN

Our good friend Greg Green has just released the second edition of *The Cannabis Grow Bible* (Green Candy Press). In this excerpt, Mr. Green shares his tips for germinating seeds and propagating seedlings, as well as techniques for successful transplanting.

## MECHOULEM'S MAP

In 1964, Dr. Raphael Mechoulam discovered, isolated and elucidated the chemical compound delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol, also known as THC. Now, 47 years later, Mechoulam sits down with HIGH TIMES to discuss current trends in medical cannabis and what the future holds for our favorite plant.

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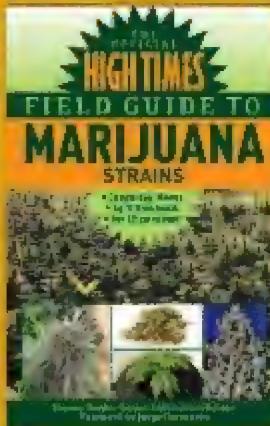
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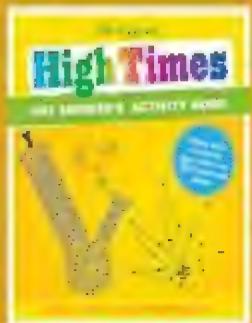
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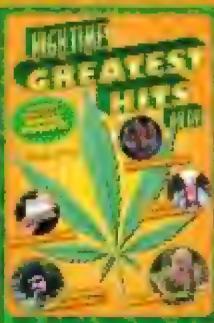
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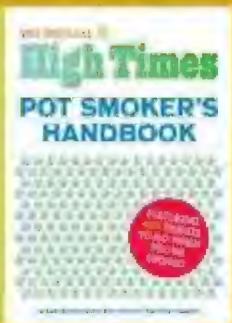
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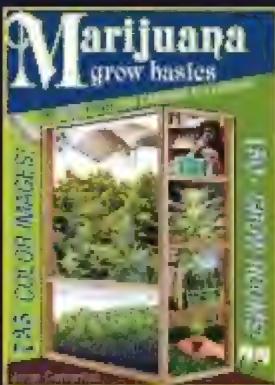
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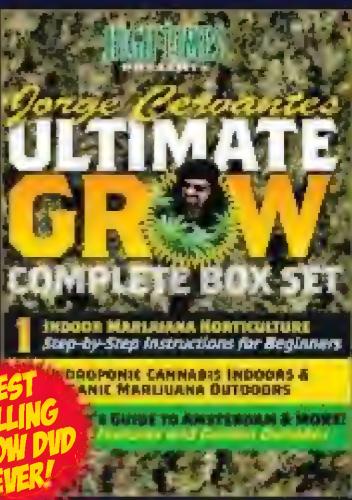
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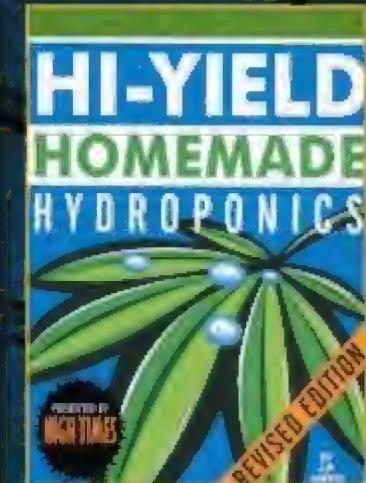
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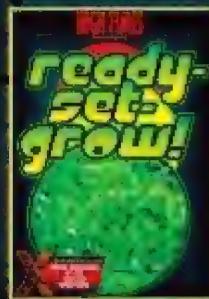
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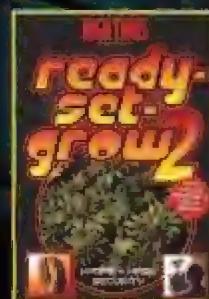
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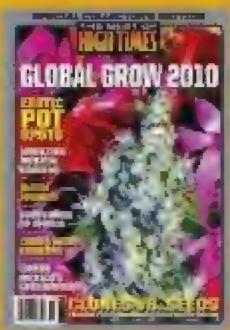
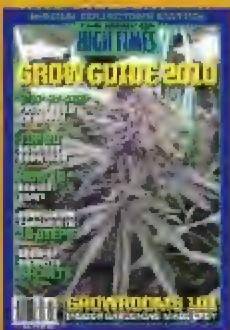
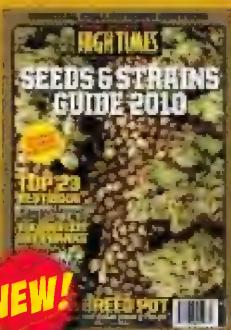
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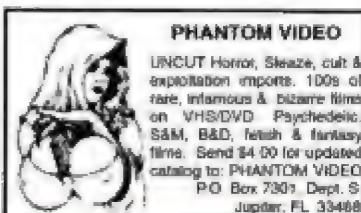
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**2 GIGI'S** **12 NEW STONER RAP ALBUM FROM THE HASH DIARIES DROPPIN' 2011!**

**3 Grand Poobah OIL BARON** **13 STEM Animals** (early 60's British Blues Band)

**4 RIFF** **14 THE TRIBUTE TO JOHN LENNON** held in Tel Aviv, Israel, on the 20th of December. Michael Hatarbut, to mark the 30th anniversary of his tragic death.

**5 I Love You, Cindy** **15 I Hate to Cook with POT cook book** Lots of stony recipes using baked or canned goods from the supermarket!

**6 Marijuana LISTEN TO THE DOCTORS** EVERYONE SHOULD STRIVE... TO LIVE THE LIFE HE SANG ABOUT.

**7 GET THE POINT** SNAKE A Joint

**8 GOD IS PERFECT. MAN IS NOT.** MAN MADE BEER GO MAKE POT! SOUTH Louisiana IN CRETAN

**9 Treezy 4 Shizzy** **19 Lively 4 Your LIFE**

**10 LONG LIVE GONZO!** All the Florida Boys said so: RUSS, MAGGOT, SHANTELL, CRAZY CONNIE, ELAINE and all the rest! FOREVER GONZO!!! **20 JIMI Hendrix** **BAND OF SICKIES** Best MUSIC

**21 BOARDWALK EMPIRE** Very good drama from HBO that presents strong arguments against prohibition.

**22 JIM MORRISON** Getting Pardoned for the most famous obscenity of the 20th century - which (probably) never happened!

**23 I ❤️ POT** **24 STAYIN' UP ALL NIGHT**

**25 Cheech AND Chong** **26 I can't wait for the first Anniversary of Marijuana legalization!**

**27 MOLD** SUCKS! **28 WHY DRIVE DRUNK?** CAN FLY **29 MARGARET CHO** **30 WORLD'S BIGGEST JOINT**

**31 Jimmy's BUFFET** When government fears the people, there is liberty. When people fear government, there is tyranny. Thomas Jefferson

**32 POT SMOKER'S ACTIVITY GUIDE** Burning one with the **3AMMOS** after karate class

**33** **35** EVERY BASKETBALL GAME HAS FOUR QUARTERS, SO THERE ARE FOUR 4:20'S IN EVERY GAME!

**36 TOMMY'S FREEKIN' MARVELOUS! CAUSE IT'S TIME TO HARVEST** **37 Democrats/Republicans Spoke same, different rules**

**38 BONG HITS** **39** I now have absolute proof that smoking even one marijuana cigarette is equal to brain damage & being on Bikini Island during an H-bomb blast! - RANDI STURZMAN

**40 RIP Leslie Nielson** You were a funny man, Leslie! (He did his own stunts and was a black belt!)

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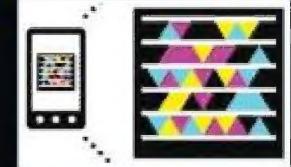
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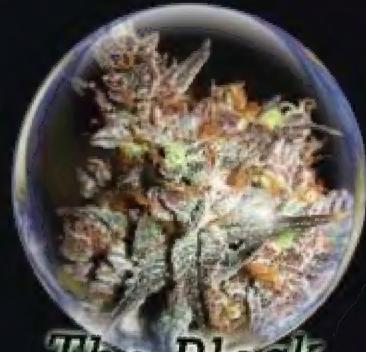
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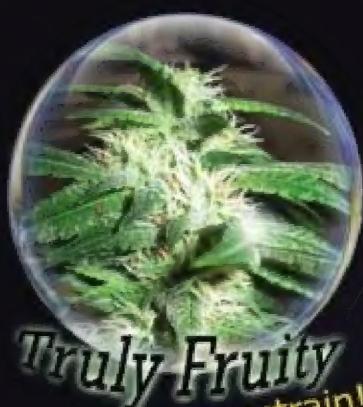
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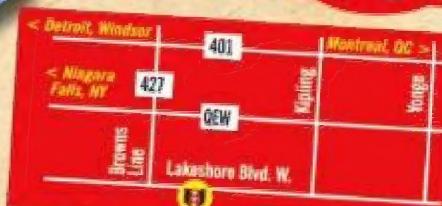
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